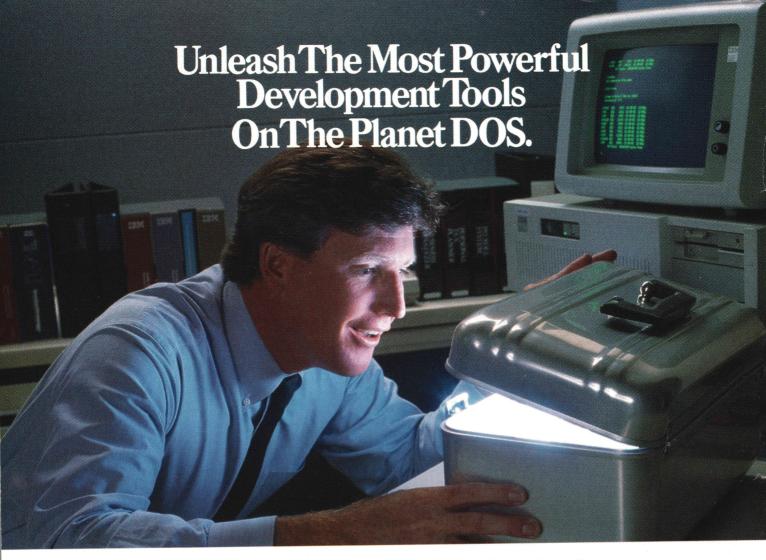
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Dr. Dobb's Journal of Software Tools

THE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMMER





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ARTICI FS

A multitasking kernel

OPERATING SYSTEMS: A Multitasking Kernel

Ken presents a task scheduler that participates in every task but is almost always invisible. The kernel lets you simulate multitasking features of the 80286 and 80386 on processors such as the 8086 and 8088. Ken's operating system, called Tele, implements a task scheduler so that it

presents the same environment on various processors. **ALGORITHMS: In Search of a Sine**

30

by Richard A. Campbell An algorithm for computing mathematical functions based on a polynomial approximation of a Taylor series formula. The algorithm is executed in both BASIC and NS320xx assembly language.

ZRDOS and ZCPR3

Polynomial >

OPERATING SYSTEMS: Echelon's Z-System by Morris Simon

36

32000 assembler

approximation

The modular design of this 8-bit system's command processor gives it unusual speed and efficiency. PROCESSORS: Series 32000 Cross Assembler by Richard Rodman

A table-driven assembler that can be modified for other processors



About the Cover

A multitasking operating system is simultaneously bandleader and musician, and its results must be harmonious.

COLUMNS

String > comparisons

16-BIT SOFTWARE TOOLBOX

104

by Ray Duncan

SWAINE'S FLAMES

by Michael Swaine

Ray's readers discuss file handles, file-name wildcards, and Concurrent DOS. Ray presents 8086- and 68000-based string comparison routines and recommends a book for the 80286.

Turbo Pascal and Modula-2

STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

108

by Namir Clement Shammas

Namir shows how to implement procedural parameters in Turbo Pascal and use Modula-2's local modules to take advantage of static variables. He also explains two methods of modifying menus within an application program without altering the application itself.

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This Issue

With the advent of Intel's 80386 microprocessor, true multitasking is clearly visible on the DOS horizon. But the road to take us there—a multitasking operating system—is still being surveyed. Our feature article leads the way by showing how to build a taskscheduling kernel—the bedrock on which a multitasking operating system is constructed.

Next Issue

We'll begin the new year with a look at the present and future of the Motorola 68000 line of processors. How are the chips being used now, and what will the new members of the family be like? What will the 68030 (or rumored 68040) add in terms of speed and memory?

Programming ethics > 80386

COMPUTER LANGUAGE IS QUIETLY BREEDING REAL BATS IN YOUR BELFRY.

LANGUAGES THAT ARE CAUSING THE BIGGEST PROGRAMMING BACKLOG IN HISTORY ARE ALSO EATING NICE BIG HOLES IN

Whether it's BASIC, COBOL, Pascal, "C", or a data base manager, you're being held back.

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has frustrating limitations, and the programming environment isn't intuitive enough to keep track of what you're working on.

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have enough.

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Because you would have to

write the code.

With CLARION you simply design the screens using our SCREENER utility and then CLARION writes the source code AND compiles it for you in seconds.

Likewise, you can use REPORTER to create reports.

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And with no time wasted. All the power and facilities you need to write great programs, faster than you ever dreamed of.

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And to you that means true satisfaction.

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So we fixed that, too. CLARION'S HELPER is an interactive utility that let's you design the most effective pop-up help screens that you can imagine. And they're "context sensitive." meaning you can have help for every field in your application.

Unlike the other micro languages, CLARION provides declarations, procedures, and functions to process

dates, strings, screens, reports, indexed files, DOS files and memory tables.

CLARION

Imagine making source program changes with the CLARION EDI-TOR. A single keystroke terminates the EDITOR, loads the COM-PILER, compiles the program, loads the PROCESSOR and executes the program. It's that easy!

Our data management capabilities are phenomenal. CLARION files permit any number of composite keys which are updated dynami-

cally.
A file may have as many keys as it needs. Each key may be composed of any fields in any order. And key files are updated when-ever the value of the key changes. Like SCREENER and RE-

PORTER, CLARION'S FILER utility also has a piece of the CLARION COMPILER. To create a new file, you name the Source Module. Then you name the Statement Label of a file structure within it.

FILER will also automatically rebuild existing files to match a changed file structure. It creates a new record for every existing record, copying the existing fields and initializing new ones.

Sounds pretty complicated, huh? Not with CLARION's documentation and on-line help screens. If you are currently competent in BASIC, Pascal or "C" you can be writing or "C" you can be writing CLARION applications in a day. In two days you won't believe the eloquence of your CLARION programs. Okay, now for the best part of

all. You can say it in CLARION for \$295.00—plus shipping and handling. All you need is an IBM® PC, XT. AT or true compatible, with 320 KB of memory, a hard disk drive, and a parallel port. And we'll allow a full 30 day evaluation

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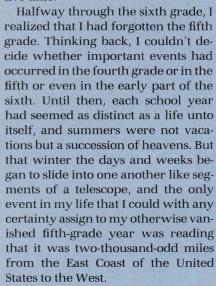
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EDITORIAL

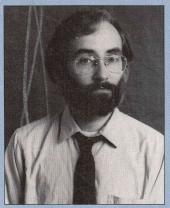
t's two-thousandodd miles from the East Coast of the United States to the West.

I know exactly in what year I learned this rough and homely statistic because is linked in my memory with a disturbing childhood insight into the nature of subjective time.



By the early 1980s, decades were telescoping. While researching a book on what I thought was the first decade of the personal computer, I rediscovered an article written in the late 1970s by Sol Libes (rhymes with Phoebus) on the first decade of hobby computing. Sol referred to that article in an early issue of his magazine, S-100 Microsystems, in 1980. I read S-100 Microsystems scrupulously back then because I was working on S-100 systems and I enjoyed Sol's News and Views column. You'll find some of Sol's thoughts from that period in microcomputing history in our Archives section on page 8 (in case you're nostalgic for them, too).

Well, it was entertaining to read about the S-100 bus in 1980. The IEEE had just decided to establish a stan-



dard for the bus invented by Ed Roberts and MITS and seized upon by early microcomputer hobbyists and entrepreneurs. After Roberts denounced the other entrepreneurs as "parasites," entrepreneur Howard Fullmer renamed his company

Parasitic Engineering, and the IEEE made Fullmer cochairman of the S-100 bus standard subcommittee. So. there were some differences of

Time continued to telescope, and within a few years the IEEE had adopted the S-100 bus standard and Sol's magazine had been purchased and promoted and put to death by a major publisher. Time had telescoped me into this job, and I wrote a brief epitaph for Microsystems.

Sol ignored all epitaphs and in the spring of 1985 began anew with Micro/Systems Journal, featuring most of the familiar contributors. There were changes that reflected changed realities, but it still had the quality one expected from Sol Libes.

Ahem.

This fall, M&T Publishing acquired Micro/Systems Journal. Micro/Systems Journal has joined the group of M&T publications that includes Dr. Dobb's Journal of Software Tools, Turbo Tech Report, and Business Software Magazine. Sol will remain editor and will remain in New Jersey, and he and I will consult with one another.

I'm looking forward to working with one of the legends of the industry. Of course, it's two-thousand-odd miles from the East Coast of the United States to the West. But we hope to telescope that distance.

Michael Swaine
Michael Swaine editor-in-chief

Dr. Dobb's Journal of Software Tools

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The C for Microcomputers PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-86, Macintosh, Amiga, Apple II, CP/M-80, Radio Shack, VENIX ROM, and Cross Development systems

MS-DOS, PC-DOS, CP/M-86, XENIX, 8086/80x86 ROM

Manx Aztec C86

"A compiler that has many strengths ... quite valuable for serious work'

Computer Language review, February 1985

Great Code: Manx Aztec C86 generates fast executing compact code. The benchmark results below are from a study conducted by Manx. The Dhrystone benchmark (CACM 10/84 27:10 p1018) measures performance for a systems software instruction mix. The results are without register variables. With register variables, Manx, Microsoft, and Mark Williams run proportionately faster. Lattice and Computer Innovations show no improve-

	Execution Time	Code Size	Compile/ Link Time
Dhrystone Benchmarl	(
Manx Aztec C86 3.3	34 secs	5,760	93 secs
Microsoft C 3.0	34 secs	7,146	119 secs
Optimized C86 2.201	53 secs	11,009	172 secs
Mark Williams 2.0	56 secs	12,980	113 secs
Lattice 2.14	89 secs	20,404	117 secs

Great Features: Manx Aztec C86 is bundled with a powerful array of well documented productivity tools, library routines

and features. Optimized C compiler AS86 Macro Assembler 80186/80286 Support 8087/80287 Sensing Lib Extensive UNIX Library Large Memory Model Z (vi) Source Editor -c ROM Support Package -c Library Source Code -c MAKE, DIFF, and GREP -c Source Debugger -c One year of updates -c

Symbolic Debugger LN86 Overlay Linker Librarian DOS, Screen, & Graphics Lib Intel Object Option CP/M-86 Library -c INTEL HEX Utility -Mixed memory models -c CP/M-86 Library -c

Manx offers two commercial development systems, Aztec C86-c and Aztec C86-d. Items marked -c are special features of the Aztec C86-c system.

Aztec C86-c Commercial System	\$499
Aztec C86-d Developer's System	\$299
Aztec C86-p Personal System	\$199
Aztec C86-a Apprentice System	\$49

All systems are upgradable by paying the difference in price plus \$10.

Third Party Software: There are a number of high quality support packages for Manx Aztec C86 for screen management, graphics, database management, and software development.

C-tree \$395	Greenleaf \$185
PHACT \$250	PC-lint \$98
HALO \$250	Amber Windows \$59
PRE-C \$395	Windows for C \$195
WindScreen \$149	FirsTime \$295
SunScreen \$99	C Util Lib \$185
PANEL \$295	Plink-86 \$395

MACINTOSH, AMIGA, XENIX, CP/M-68K, 68k ROM

Manx Aztec C68k

"Library handling is very flexible . . . documentation is excellent ... the shell a pleasure to work in ... blows away the competition for pure compile speed ... an excellent effort."

Computer Language review, April 1985

Aztec C68k is the most widely used commercial C compiler for the Macintosh. Its quality, performance, and completeness place Manx Aztec C68k in a position beyond comparison. It is available in several upgradable

Ontimized C Creates Clickable Applications Macro Assembler Mouse Enhanced SHELL Overlay Linker Easy Access to Mac Toolbox Resource Compiler **UNIX Library Functions** Debuggers Terminal Emulator (Source) Clear Detailed Documentation Librarian C-Stuff Library Source Editor MacRam Disk -c UniTools (vi, make, diff, grep) -c Library Source -c One Year of Updates -c

Items marked -c are available only in the Manx Aztec C86-c system. Other features are in both the Aztec C86-d and Aztec C86-c systems.

Aztec C68k-c Commercial System	\$499
Aztec C68d-d Developer's System	\$299
Aztec C68k-p Personal System	\$199
C-tree database (source)	\$399
AMIGA, CP/M-68k, 68k UNIX	call

Apple II, Commodore, 65xx, 65C02 ROM

Manx Aztec C65

"The AZTEC C system is one of the finest software packages I have seen"

NIBBLE review, July 1984

A vast amount of business consumer and educational software is implemented in Manx Aztec C65. The quality and comprehensiveness of this system is competitive with 16 bit C systems. The system includes a full optimized C compiler, 6502 assembler, linkage editor, UNIX library, screen and graphics libraries, shell, and much more. The Apple II version runs under DOS 3.3, and ProDOS, Cross versions are available.

The Aztec C65-c/128 Commodore system runs under the C128 CP/M environment and generates programs for the C64, C128, and CP/M environments. Call for prices and availability of Apprentice, Personal and Developer versions for the Commodore 64 and 128 machines.

Aztec C65-c ProDOS & DOS 3.3	\$399	
Aztec C65-d Apple DOS 3.3	\$199	
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Aztec C65-a for learning C	\$49	
Aztec C65-c/128 C64, C128, CP/M	\$399	

Distribution of Manx Aztec C

In the USA, Manx Software Systems is the sole and exclusive distributor of Aztec C. Any telephone or mail order sales other than through Manx are unauthorized.

Manx Cross Development Systems

Cross developed programs are edited, compiled, assembled, and linked on one machine (the HOST) and transferred to another machine (the TARGET) for execution. This method is useful where the target machine is slower or more limited than the HOST, Manx cross compilers are used heavily to develop software for business, consumer, scientific, industrial, research, and educational applications.

HOSTS: VAX UNIX (\$3000), PDP-11 UNIX (\$2000), MS-DOS (\$750), CP/M (\$750), MACINTOSH (\$750), CP/M-68k (\$750), XENIX (\$750).

TARGETS: MS-DOS, CP/M-86, Macintosh, CP/M-68k, CP/M-80, TRS-80 3 & 4, Apple II, Commodore C64, 8086/80x86 ROM, 68xxx ROM, 8080/8085/Z80 ROM, 65xx ROM.

The first TARGET is included in the price of the HOST system. Additional TARGETS are \$300 to \$500 (non VAX) or \$1000 (VAX).

Call Manx for information on cross development to the 68000, 65816, Amiga, C128, CP/M-68K, VRTX, and

CP/M, Radio Shack, 8080/8085/Z80 ROM

Many Aztec CII

"I've had a lot of experience with different C compilers, but the Aztec C80 Compiler and Professional Development System is the best I've seen.

80-Micro, December, 1984, John B. Harrell III

Aztec C II-c (CP/M & ROM)	\$349
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Payment can be by check, COD, American Express, VISA, Master Card, or Net 30 to qualified customers.

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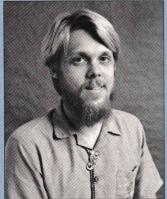
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RUNNING LIGHT

ur latest issue of the listings on disk is out now. On it you'll find an eclectic collection of files, from Jan Steinman's Worm Memory Test for the 68000 to Richard Rodman's 32000 assembler (in this issue). You'll find McIvor's Radix Sort; Ashdown's Cubic

Splines program; the benchmarks used in the Elkins/King turbo board review: a whole bunch of stuff from Holub's and Duncan's columns; and a couple of interesting Macintosh programs, including the Digital Dissolve demo by Mike Morton and Howard Katz's Mandelbrot program. See the DDJ ad catalog for more information.

This month's theme is operating systems, and we have a couple of interesting offerings. The lead article



focuses on a task scheduling routine, the central kernel of any multitasking system.

Echelon's ZCPR is a Z80 CP/M work-alike that is not only more powerful than the original CP/M but also is more interesting: the code is tighter and

takes good advantage of the Z80 instruction set. In this issue, Morris Simon takes a look at ZCPR.

This issue also features a complete 32000-family cross assembler by Richard Rodman. We're printing the listings in Cauzin Softstrip format. What do you think of the Softstrip listings? Please call or write.

editor

ARCHIVES

"I am no businessman. Moreover, I am the kind of person who likes to take on a variety of projects and not tie myself to projects that take up all my time and run on for years. However, it has become apparent, after aproaching many people, that the only way an S-100 magazine will come into existence is if I assume the responsibility."-Sol Libes, S-100 Microsystems, vol.1, no.1, 1980.

John C. Dvorak is publishing a monthly four page review of software. The primary emphasis is on North Star system software. The sample issue I received contained a great deal of useful information. John also distributes a wide selection of North Star software."—Sol Libes, S-100 Microsystems, Nov./Dec. 1980.

"I remember only five years ago buying my first copy of Basic for only \$5. It was a mini-version of about 2K bytes of code on paper tape. The author sold it directly, as a hobby. He had a good full time job and this was just a little project on the side. The program provided only the very fundamental Basic functions...and there were a few bugs in the program.

Today, things have changed radically. I have changed . . . from a pure hobbyistto an entrepreneur that relies on his system for income. My needs have changed. I need powerful software which will allow me to do my tasks quickly. Also, I need software that is bug-free and does not consume my time with debugging.

.. I think that I am typical of most microcomputer users. I am sure that most of the computer hobbyists of two to five years ago are the entrepreneurs of today. It seems like all of my old computer hobbyist buddies are making money with their systems, one way or another. Although we still play around with our systems just for the fun of it, most of our time is now spent on income producing projects."-Sol Libes, S-100 Microsystems, Sept./Oct. 1980.

The Altair-8800 used a 100-pin bus that was laid out by an anonymous draftsman who arbitrarily assigned signal names to groups of connector pins. Originally known as the 'Altair bus,' its name was quickly changed by other manufacturers of compatible products to the 'Altair/IMSAI bus' and the 'Altair/IMSAI/Protech bus.' This was too much, and at Atlantic City in 1976 Cromemco's Roger Melon coined the name 'S-100 bus,' which was universally adopted despite protests from MITS that it was still the 'Altair bus.' "-Sol Libes, Microsystems, May 1983.

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LETTERS



Burning C

Dear DDJ,

So, the high priest of obsCurity defends the purity of the faith against the unwashed. Or was Allen Holub's August Viewpoint merely a stalking-horse? Better make that a dead horse; let's flog it some more.

First of all, my programming credentials are better left unsaid, though I do program regularly in two assembly languages, read (manual in hand) two or three more, own and try to read Knuth, hate strongly typed languages, dislike long-winded compilers, and love Forth. And as for C, it is everything negative that has been published in DDJ et al. You might accurately surmise that I wouldn't want to take Mr. Holub's C classes and that U.C. Berkeley wouldn't let me anyway. But. . . .

It doesn't take too long for the non-C-fluent to realize what is the problem with the language and their grasp of it: that the ordinary control structures they use in any other language are damned difficult to pick out of a C listing. They are so difficult that someone has even written a book about it: The C Puzzle Book. In spite of Mr. Holub's wishy "C is difficult [because of] the ways that pointers are used and so forth" and "assembly-lanwashy guage programmers usually have little difficulty learning about pointers," it is the symbols of the language that boggle—you are continually reminded that everything you know is wrong. % != !! %s\n indeed!

Combine two glaring stupidities: a language-wide propensity for the least possible typing (these guys are two-fingered for sure) and a finicky syntax based upon { } () ; /* */. (God forbid that you miss one.) Add a heavy dose of self-righteous disdain for anyone less than an operating system hacker; a black-box

("well, this bit works so let's forget comments") library archive; vested interests of book publishers to sell books that almost explain; and finally, those software firms and authors who already have "it" on one machine (so let's port it everywhere). Result: a popular language with commercial interests that's difficult to learn yet easy to use and that pays increasing dividends to those who have the most time and code invested.

Anyway, "Easy C" by Orlin and Heath did one thing that all of C Chest never has: permitted me to read and use C within an hour. The authors' approach to C is unique in that they didn't say everything I knew was wrong. So, with some quick typing, I've my own EASYC.H.

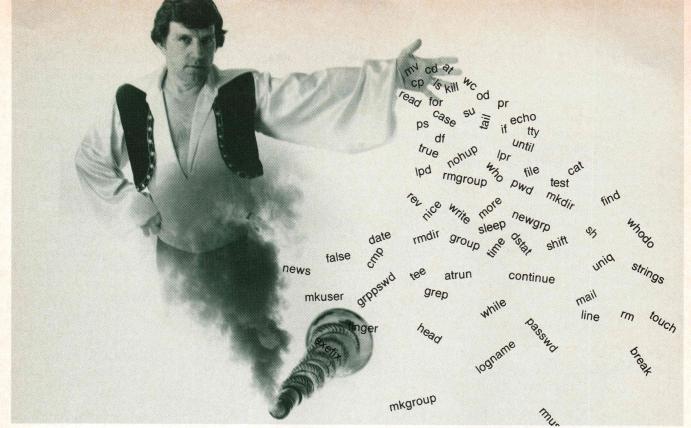
Interestingly, mine isn't much like Orlin and Heath's but more like Forth (the control constructs) and 9900 assembly language (the operators). I use it to write code that I can read tomorrow, and with its listing in hand, I can decipher even Mr. Holub's constructs.

I once wrote a disassembler that printed out the English translation of instructions—for example, Load Immediate for LI. After a while I got impatient with its long-windedness and put the "correct" ones into the data. I guess I learned the language. EA-SYC.H works in the same way. After a while, INC gets more tiresome to type than ++. The neat thing about EASYC.H is that I can mix the representations within the same program. Allen Holub reveals more the expert's impatience than insight into how Easy C can aid the beginner.

And yes, the defines for >=, <=, >, < are dumb. But the ones for &&, !!,!, ==, &, ^, !, ~, <<, >>, ++, --, and %, are godsends for someone who can't stand to look at (or use) C more than once a month. If Allen Holub wanted to do something really useful with C Chest, he might publish yet another pipeline program that would purify yours.c his.c and its converse bastardize his.c readable.c.

Purify might be already done by the first pass through the parser, but I could see using bastardize every time I downloaded a C program. Or typed in one of Mr. Holub's gems of conciseness. That'll work very nicely—it will require the least typing and provide the most readability.





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LETTERS

(continued from page 10)

Finally, computers were developed to help math wizards do millions of calculations—big deal. I use mine to write letters, call up CIS, and draw pictures. I couldn't care less why C was put on this earth and will resist the fascist Pascal to my dying day. If you're new to the programming business, you should be learning Forth, not Pascal.

Frederick Hawkins 1020 N. 6th St. Allentown, PA 18102

Structured Programming

Dear DDJ,

I was surprised that Mr. Shammas' column on generic routines (Structured Programming, August 1986) did not include any reference to the ability to create generic C routines through the preprocessor. I should point out that this is not my idea. The technique is described in Advanced C: Food for the Educated Palate, by Narain Gehani (Computer Science Press. 1985)—a useful and well-written book. I include a generic sort routine [see Table 1, below] that I have found useful for sorting arrays of various types. It can be instantiated by:

GENERIC_SORT(int_sort, int, >), or GENERIC_SORT-(float_sort, float, <)

The sort I used is the standard Shell sort, a la K & R.
Keep up the good work!
Kit Kauffmann
Algorithms Unlimited
P.O. Box 3516
Ogden, UT 84409

```
#define GENERIC_SORT(NAME, ELEM_TYPE, OP) NAME(v, n)\
ELEM_TYPE v[ ]; int n;\

{\
ELEM_TYPE temp;\
int gap, i, j;\
for(gap = n/2; gap > 0; gap /= 2)\
for(i = gap; i < n; i++)\
for(j = i-gap; j >= 0 && v[j] OP v[j+gap]; j -= gap)\

{\
temp = v[j];\
v[j] = v[j+gap];\
v[j+gap] = temp;\
}\
```

Table 1: Generic sort routine in C

```
100 REMark Example of a generic Shell sort in Sinclair SuperBasic
110 |
120 DEFine PROCedure shell_sort(L,Num)
130
       LOCal Offset%,I,J,K, Divide_And_Conquer,Get_In_Order,In_Order,Temp$
140
       Offset% = Num
150
       REPeat Divide_And_Conquer
         IF Offset% <= 1 THEN EXIT Divide_And_Conquer
160
170
         Offset% = Offset% / 2
180
         REPeat Get_In_Order
190
           In_Order = -1
           K = Num - Offset\%
200
210
           FOR J = 0 to K
220
             I = J + Offset\%
230
             IF L(J) > L(I) THEN
240
               In_Order = 0
               Temp$ = L(I)
250
               L(I) = L(J)
260
               L(J) = Temp$
270
280
             END IF
290
           END FOR J
300
           IF In_Order THEN EXIT Get_In_Order
310
         END REPeat Get_In_Order
320
       END REPeat Divide_And_Conquer
330
    END DEFine shell_sort
```

Table 2: Generic Shell sort in Sinclair SuperBasic

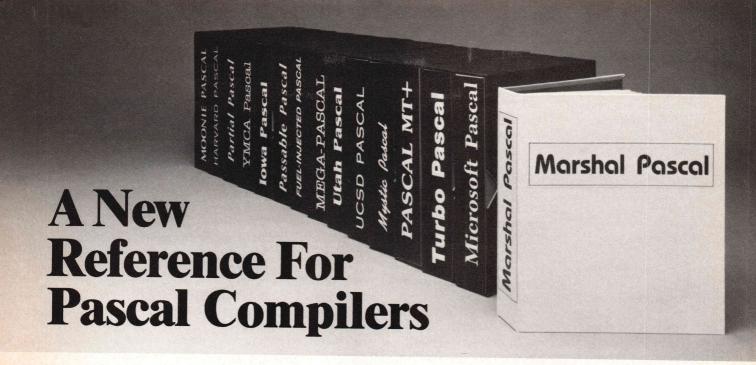
Dear DDJ,

I read with interest the August 1986 Structured Programming column about generic procedures in Ada and Modula-2. I agree that generic procedures are powerful and desirable features.

Both languages implement generic procedures in an overly complicated manner, however. I use a language in which all procedures and functions are generic because all formal parameters are typeless until the procedure or function is called. Another feature of this language that helps toward generic procedures and functions is coercion between data types. You can set string variables equal to numeric types and vice versa. Integer variables set equal to a real number will automatically round the real number to the nearest integer. Real number variables can take on the value of integers. I feel that late binding procedures and functions and coercion between data types provide an ideal programming environment. The language that provides these features is Sinclair SuperBasic as implemented on the Sinclair QL. This version of BASIC is highly structured and flexible, supporting such features as bitwise manipulation. I have included a listing [Table 2, left] of a generic Shell sort in SuperBasic that can sort strings, reals, and integers. Love your magazine!

Michael A. McCoy Box 84 King Edward's Ct. Rocky Mount, NC 27803

DDJ



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22.7	11.6k	14.2	11.5k	2.2	12.5k	4.7	13.5k	28	11.4k
15.9	9.3k	5.8	6.5k	1.9	8.9k	6.0	23.6k	33	19.6k

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VIEWPOINT

And you may ask yourself

What is that beautiful house?
And you may ask yourself Where does that highway go to?
And you may ask yourself Am I right? . . . Am I wrong?
And you may say to yourself
My God! What have I done? from "Once in a Lifetime" —David Byrne, Brian Eno

I've a confession to make— I'm really a composer, a musician, not a computer programmer at all. I went back to school to learn how to build synthesizers, and learning about computers was a side effect. I like to program and to design hardware, but I've become increasingly uncomfortable about engineering as a profession. More accurately, I have reservations about the uses to which my work can be put.

My main reservations have to do with weapons construction. I don't like it, but it can be difficult to get away from. After graduating, I worked on miltaryrelated projects for a while without really worrying about the ultimate purposes of my work. The work was technically interesting and wasn't closely related to weapons development-or thought. One day, after working for a year on a consulting project—building a manufacturing control system for airplanes-I

by Allen Holub

discovered that the airplanes in questions were F-16s. This project was much too close to weapons production for me to be comfortable; I could no longer ignore what I was doing.

This put me in a real quandary. On one hand I was disgusted by what I was building; on the other hand I had committed myself to finishing the project and I'm very old-fashioned about fulfilling promises. If I just left the project, it wouldn't get finished (I was managing the software development and had written a good portion of the code). I dealt with my conscience by doubling my consulting rate and giving the extra money away to peace groups. The client was not happy but had no choice. I finished up the project as quickly as I could and left.

I had no trouble finding another consulting job. My new client's reaction to what had transpired at the old job was more amusement than anything else, and I thought I had found a company with a conscience. Unfortunately, the new company started producing products that were sold almost exclusively to defense contractors. I wasn't working on these, but I was still uncomfortable. Giving money to peace groups didn't satisfy my conscience anymore.

There is no easy way for me to deal with conflicts between my professional interests, financial needs, and conscience. The problems have been made worse by the Reagan administration's emphasis on defense spending-let's face it, an ever increasing percentage of the interesting and well-paying jobs are in weapons work. My solution has been to move gradually out of the field. I only take consulting projects that I'm convinced are not related to weapons and with companies that don't do weapons work. I'm a DUMPY, a downwardly mobile young professional. My income has diminished, but it's still adequate. More important, I'm doing things that I think benefit society.

To make my "sudden onslaught of conscience" (to quote one of my managers) more intelligible, I'll explain some of my political views. I've come to believe that the out-of-control arms buildup is not just the responsibility of government. Nuclear weapons don't spring, like Athena, fully armed from the head of Zeus. They're designed and built by engineers and programmers, by you and me. If we refused to build them, they wouldn't exist.

How is it, then, that a programmer who supports a nuclear freeze goes off to work every morning for a defense subcontractor that's making control systems for F-16s? How can we allow a regular paycheck to be more important than the ultimate harm we are doing to society? Weapons work is grave digging, quite literally. What good is a nice fat paycheck when your life has been reduced to a heap of radioactive slag? If nuclear weapons are used again, won't the developers be just a much mass murderers as the madmen who pushed the buttons?

Of course, there are people who have thought about these issues and have come to the opposite conclusion from mine: They believe that a strong nuclear arsenal makes the world a safer place. Though I think they're wrong, these people are at least acting according to their beliefs. I

have a hard time, though, with people who refuse to look at the issues and build weapons anyway. We don't mitigate the effect of our work by not analyzing what we're doing. That the human race could be put to an end, and that some humans seem to be trying to do just that, should give any thinking person pause. That people can just sit back and let this happen is unconscionable. That some engineers claim to oppose the use of nuclear weapons or don't look at the issues of weapons production and still help to build them is

What I'm trying to do is to convince you to do something. Those who don't like the work their companies are doing could try to change things. If they can't, they could get another job-like Peter Hagelstein, the key Star Wars sciwho recently entist resigned from Lawrence Livermore Lab because he was reportedly so unhappy about doing weapons research with X-ray lasers.

I strongly believe that an engineering ethics course should be a required part of every EECS curriculum-a course that would get people to look beyond that fat paycheck to the effects of their work on society. Those of us who work for universities could try to get such a course going. We can contact our legislators. We can work with peace groups. Whatever we do, we musn't sit around and wait for the bombs to be dropped—or they will be.

DDJ

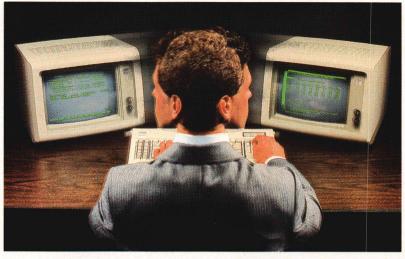
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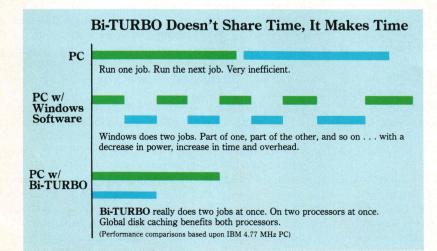
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by Ken Berry

ele is a multitasking operating system for the IBM PC and compatibles that is written in C and assembly language. This article describes in detail the most critical part of Tele, the task scheduler, which handles the allocation and distribution of CPU time to the var-

Tele implements an 80386-like task scheduler on 'unsecure' processors.

ious tasks in the system. If you roll your own operating system, the task scheduler probably will present the most difficult problems. I hope to provide enough information to make it possible for you to design a task-scheduling kernel for your own multitasking operating system.

Tele contains three large blocks of code: the run-time library, the file system, and the task scheduler. These account, roughly, for 1/3, 1/2, and 1/6 of the total amount of code.

The Run-Time Library

The Tele run-time library has unique features, but all such libraries are essentially alike. They encapsulate algorithms common to a wide range of applications and thereby reduce the amount of time needed to code application programs.

The File System

Tele's file system is complex because of my requirement that it support both MS-DOS and Unix media. All my development tools were written for MS-DOS, so all the files had to be on MS-DOS media. I could therefore use MS-DOS for the file system as I implemented other parts of Tele. I eventually completed the Tele file system to significantly

Ken Berry, P.O. Box 966, Jackson, CA 95642-0966.

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improve performance, but everything else was fully tested at that time.

Task Scheduler

The security kernel, or task scheduler, of an operating system is responsible for the allocation of system resources to tasks. It takes its

name from military and financial applications in which security means protection against intrusion and sabotage. I don't worry about that kind of security because I don't leave my computer connected to the public communications system. I do, however, make programming mistakes. In particular, I sometimes mess up the stack and cause a program to return to the wrong location. When a program runs wild, it can execute any conceivable code, so there is no logical difference between a saboteur program introduced by a spy and a benign program that has run wild. An operating system that cannot be crashed by an application is identical to one that is secure from intrusion.

In order to make a secure (or crashproof) system, you must have a task scheduler that enforces certain rules on every other program. The rules determine what data can be accessed and where control can be passed; they must be enforced on the execution of every instruction. Processors such as the 80286 and 80386 check every instruction for security violations. Other processors, such as the 68000 and 32000 series can also support secure systems. The more common 8086 and 8088 processors cannot.

The necessary, and sufficient, rules for a secure system are simple. All programs are ranked according to security level, or degree of trust. A task can access data only at its own level or at a less trusted level. It can call another program or subroutine at its own level or at a more trust-



Tele implements a task scheduler on unsecure processors like the 8080 and 8086 so that it presents the same environment regardless of processor. Eventually the bugs that result in programs running wild will be found and corrected. Provided that the program is not a saboteur, it will then run exactly the same on any processor supported by Tele.

A Detailed Description

isters with appropriate values.

The listings that accompany this article implement the task-scheduling kernel. You can enhance your applications by incorporating these functions into MS-DOS. An initiation function alters the 8086 interrupt vector and reprograms the system clock to support Tele. This is done without damaging MS-DOS, which remains in memory and is available for use as a file system and other purposes. A termination function removes Tele and restores MS-DOS completely.

Function *t*__*krnl* in Listing One, page 50, is the security kernel. This program is an infinite loop. It determines the next task to be executed and passes control to it. The task will eventually be interrupted by the system tick clock and control will return to *t*__*krnl*. The terminated task is then stored in an appropriate queue, and the loop repeats.

Listings Two through Four are presented as supplements to Listing One. Listing Two, page 58, contains several macros used with the assembly-language functions; Listing Three, page 61, contains various assembly-language subroutines that are intended to support Listing

Scheduling

Tele uses a scheduling algorithm that supports real-time processing as well as preemptive multitasking. Much of the system code executes as independent tasks. Also, the hardware device drivers are fully interrupt-driven. These features make the task scheduler and its associated functions intricate. The end result is efficient processing of several types of tasks.

Figure 1, page 18, illustrates the scheduling queues manipulated by the task scheduler. The current state of a task is equivalent to the queue in which it resides. The execution queue (X) contains tasks ready for execution. The wait queue (W) contains tasks waiting for a particular (real) time to execute. The priority queue (P) is actually a group of queues used to sort tasks by priority. Also shown in Figure 1 is the pointer to the currently executing task (C). The listings contain a symbol, _tsk, that locates the control table for the current task.

All tasks are represented by a *t_task* structure, which is defined in Listings One and Two. The *t_ftask* structure contains *t_task* as well as several additional fields. Application tasks are represented by *t_ftasks*; they may have private memory areas and files assigned to them. Internal system tasks only use *t_task* to conserve space—they all share memory and files private to the system.

A task is said to be in a particular queue if the linkage pointers in the task's *t_task* structure are linked in the queue. Therefore managing tasks amounts to manipulating the linkage pointers in the *t_task* structure. The security kernel is a state machine. It implements rules for changing the states of tasks by changing the queue linkages.

(continued from page 17)

Tele uses a fixed execution interval—that is, a periodic interrupt is used to divide time into equal intervals. Each interrupt marks the end of an application task execution interval. Higher priority tasks are allowed to execute more often, but all tasks are equal in being allowed to execute for one interval at a time. Another way of implementing priorities is to vary the execution interval, allowing higher priority tasks to execute for longer each time. I had to use the fixed-period method because a standard PC has only one programmable interrupt available.

The interrupt is generated by an 8253 clock/timer circuit attached to an 8259 interrupt controller. The 8253 provides three programmable timers: one of these is used to refresh memory (Tele makes use of this for high-resolution timing, as explained later), another generates the signal used for the operator alarm speaker, and the third timer can be used to interrupt the processor.

Tele actually requires three interrupts. One is necessary to measure time and maintain a time-of-day clock. Another is needed to update the console display. The display driver Tele uses is six times more efficient than the standard BIOS, besides supporting window overlays. The display driver is relevant here only because it requires a periodic interrupt synchronized to the display hardware. The third interrupt required is to preempt application tasks. Fortunately, it is possible to serve all three functions with a single interrupt provided it has a fixed period (which must

be harmonically related to the display hardware).

Function *t__tick* in Listing Four services the system tick interrupt. Because bad things happen if it does not complete executing before the next interrupt, an interlock is provided to ignore subsequent interrupts until the first is complete. This is a protection that should only be needed in debugging, but it costs little time and those bad things that happen involve corrupting the stack and making the processor run wild.

After preventing reentrance, the current application task execution interval is terminated by storing 0xFF in the system variable t_astrm . Then the system state is entered, as explained later. The next step is to save the complete machine state of the interrupted task. The state is saved on the task stack, and then a special system stack is made current.

Tele measures the execution time of all tasks to a high resolution. This is described in detail later but is accomplished by a call to function *t_rtmark* immediately after storing the application machine state. All processor cycles until the next call to *t_rtmark* will be counted and accumulated under an internal task.

The initial operations take a small, fixed amount of time so that control reaches the fourth step in synchrony with the console display hardware. Function *w_cdspl* is called just as the vertical blanking interval begins so that the display can be updated rapidly without any interference appearing on the screen. The display update can last almost 4 milliseconds under some conditions. When the tick clock has a frequency higher than that of the display,

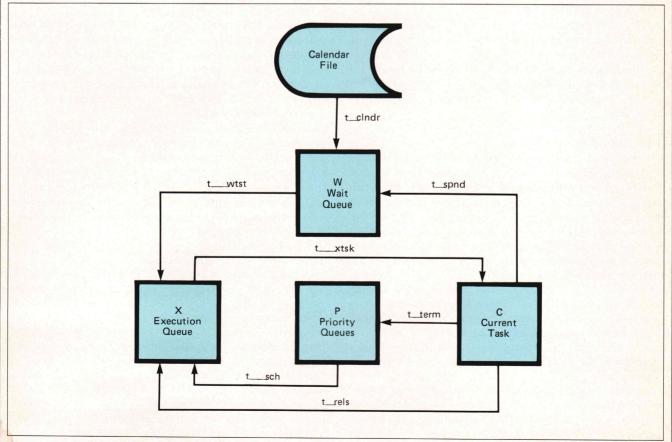


Figure 1: Task-scheduling state machine

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MULTITASKING KERNEL (continued from page 18)

say 120 Hz, *w_cdspl* is not called on each interrupt. Because *w_cdspl* recieves control about 60 times each second, for a 120-Hz tick clock, half the interrupts bypass the display update.

The next step is to maintain the time-of-day clock. Tele provides the current time of day to application programs in an ASCII character string accurate to 0.05 second. The tick frequency is nearly a multiple of this but not exactly, so *t_tick* maintains a series of counters to skip some ticks and duplicate others. The end result is that the long-term average is very nearly 20 Hz. The time-of-day clock is intended to present the time to the operator and to time-stamp operations (it looks fast to a human being).

To simplify developing Tele under MS-DOS, I also maintain the standard BIOS time-of-day interrupt. The BIOS programs the tick clock to produce an 18.2-Hz interrupt. Tele uses some additional counters to derive this frequency from its 20-Hz clock. The standard BIOS procedure is maintained by relocating its interrupt vector before *t_tick* is installed to service the tick clock. The alternate interrupt is then invoked at the appropriate times to maintain a long-term average of 18.2 interrupts per second. Notice that at any particular instant the clocks can be

off by several milliseconds—it is only the long-term (greater than 1 second) averages that are correct.

Finally *t*_*tick* is ready to terminate the current application task execution interval and return control to *t*_*krnl*. These other operations may seem complicated, but they execute very quickly and have no side effects. No problems will develop by ignoring the first several steps and assuming that control, in response to a tick interrupt, goes immediately to label *tick3*.

First, *t_rtmark* is again called to resume counting processor cycles for the interrupted task. Then *t__tick* decides whether to resume the interrupted task or to pass control back to *t__krnl*. Some tasks must not be interrupted—for instance, a system program might be rearranging the linkage between tasks. If control were to return to the task scheduler before the linkage was fully corrected, pointers could get lost and bad things happen. One way to prevent this would be to disable interrupts, but that would impinge on the device drivers. In fact, it is important to make all times that interrupts are disabled as short as possible. The time required to update the task queue linkages is much too long.

Execution States

Tele solves this problem by defining two execution states: application and system. A program enters the system

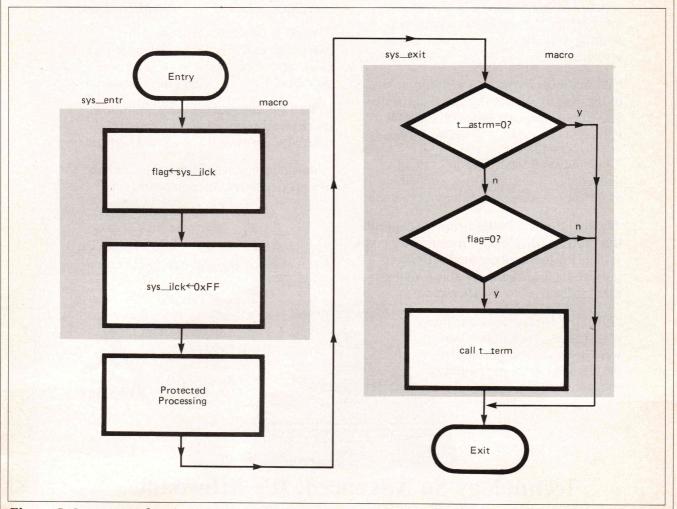


Figure 2: System state function

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- *The benchmark procedure was adapted from "Benchmarking Database Systems: A Systematic Approach" by Bitton, DeWitt and Turbyfill, December 1983.

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Order Toll-Free 1 (800) 327-2462 state when it must be allowed to finish an operation before it is preempted. This is something like disabling interrupts, but the interrupt hardware remains fully functional and enabled. In the application state, a task may be preempted and not resumed for an indefinite period. I call the special state *system* to emphasize that it must not be entered lightly. Programs that enter it must be debugged and be sure to exit from the system state at their earliest opportunity. Figure 2, page 20, is a flowchart of a program that enters the system state.

The system state is entered with the *sys_entr* macro (see Listing Two). 0xFF is stored in the system variable sys_ilck with a locked exchange instruction. The lock ensures that 0xFF is stored and the original contents are loaded without any intervening bus cycles. Therefore it will work even if multiple processors are accessing a common memory. Whenever sys_ilck contains 0xFF, the current program is in the system state. When it contains 0x00, the program is in the application state. The sys_entr macro stores 0xFF in sys_ilck and stores the original contents of sys_ilck in a local flag.

After the protected operation is complete, the *sys_exit* macro is used to exit from the system state. The tick service function, *t_tick*, uses the *sys_entr* macro but does not use *sys_exit*. All other functions that execute in the system state use both macros.

In the <code>sys_exit</code> macro, variable <code>t_astrm</code> is examined first. If it contains <code>0x00</code>, the current execution interval has not terminated and control returns normally. If <code>t_astrm</code> contains <code>0xFF</code>, the current application has been preempted while it was in the system state. Instead of returning control to the calling program, <code>sys_exit</code> examines the original <code>sys_ilck</code> value. If <code>sys_ilck</code> contained <code>0x00</code>, the current task is terminated by calling function <code>t_term</code> (Listing Three). But if both <code>t_astrm</code> and <code>sys_ilck</code> contain <code>0xFF</code>, the function calling the current one (where <code>sys_exit</code> is being processed) was already in the system state. Again control returns to the calling program. This scheme allows programs to be nested in the system state. Eventually control will return to the first program to enter the system state. At that time the <code>t_astrm</code> variable controls processing.

Function t__tick is slightly different. One difference is because t__tick is the only function to set t_astrm to 0xFF. T_astrm is set to 0x00 when an application task is initially dispatched. It is set to 0xFF when the tick interrupt occurs.

The other difference involves the stack. Every task has its own stack—at least one. The task scheduler also has its own private stack. Function t__tick saves the interrupted machine state on the application stack and then establishes the system stack—that is, the stack private to t__krnl. The system stack is then used for all subsequent processing within t__tick.

When control is ready to exit from *t__tick*, only the value of *sys_ilck* at the time of the interrupt need be examined (*t_astrm* is always set by this time). If it was

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MULTITASKING KERNEL (continued from page 22)

0x00, control simply returns into the system stack. But if *sys_ilck* contained *0xFF* at the time the tick interrupt occurred, the task was in the system state and should not be preempted. In this case, *t_tick* restores the original stack and returns into it, thereby resuming the interrupted task. That task will then finish whatever operation required system state protection and will eventually execute a *sys_exit* macro, causing control to enter function *t_term*.

Figure 1 shows the task queues and the paths along which tasks are moved from one queue to another. The paths are labeled according to the function that performs the transfer. Function *t_term* is shown moving the current task to the priority queue (from C to P). *T__tick* performs this same function.

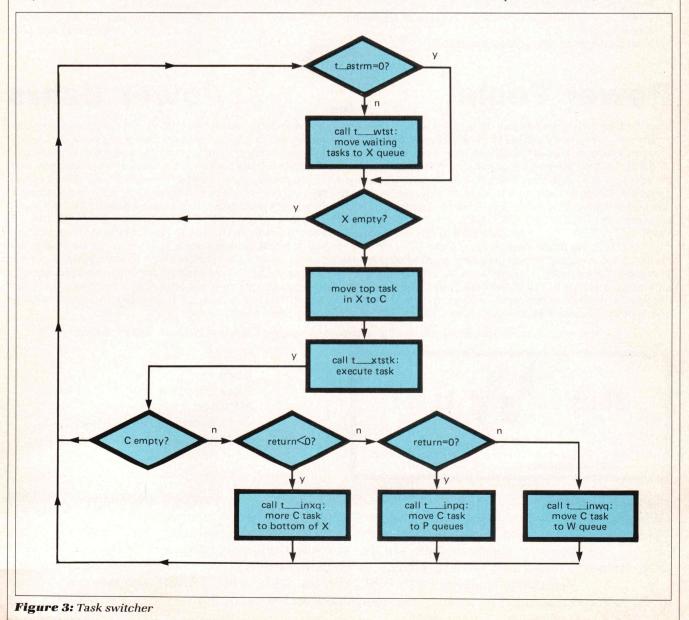
Closely related to function *t_term* are functions *t_rels*, *t_spnd*, and *t_wait*. All these functions call another,

t_trmap, to terminate the current application task. This is done by first storing the current machine state on the application stack. Then control enters function *t_sstk* to establish the system stack (the stack used by *t_krnl*). *T_sstk* exits by returning to the caller of *t_trmap*.

The difference between *t_term*, *t_spnd*, *t_wait*, and *t_rels* is in the value they return. Because *t_stck* has changed the stack, they return into the system stack, not the stack they were called with. Their return codes are ultimately presented to *t_krnl* and determine the path that the task will follow away from queue C in Figure 1.

Function t_term returns a code of 0 and causes the task to be returned to the priority queues, P. There it will compete, on the basis of priority, with other tasks to be returned to the execution queue, X. Function t_rels returns a code of -1, which causes the task to be returned to the bottom of the execution queue.

T_spnd returns a positive return code between 1 and 32,767. This number indicates the number of ticks for which the task will be suspended. That is, if the return



value is 12 and the tick frequency is 120 Hz, the task will be suspended for 1/10 second. *T_wait* is a combination; it first calls *t_spnd* and then calls *t_rels*. Therefore *t_spnd* suspends the task for a time, after which the task is placed at the top of the execution queue. *T_wait* suspends the task but restores it to the bottom of the queue.

Tele therefore has a real-time scheduling capability based on the frequency of the tick clock. The resolution is not adequate for many applications but is sufficient for times relevant to the human operator. For example, an alarm can be sounded by beeping the speaker, and the duration of the beep is measured by the tick clock using function *t_spnd*. The standard BIOS enters an idle loop that literally wastes time to measure the beep's duration, but Tele is able to continue doing other work. Similarly, many Tele drivers utilize special tasks and *t_spnd* to implement time-outs and thereby detect unresponsive equipment.

Looping

T_krnl processes the return codes from *t_term* and its associated functions. *T_krnl* is an infinite loop—once control enters, it never leaves except by calling application tasks. The application tasks eventually return to *t_krnl* and control continues to loop. Figure 3, page 24, shows the flowchart for *t_krnl*.

At the beginning of the loop *t_astrm* is examined. If it contains 0x00, no tick interrupt has occurred. Otherwise it will contain 0xFF, and function *t_wtst* is called. *T_wtst* will examine the wait queue (W) and move all tasks scheduled to be executed at the current system tick to the top of the execution queue. Then the execution queue is examined. If it is not empty, the task on top is made current; it is moved from X to C as shown in Figure 1. If the execution queue is empty, *t_krnl* will keep looping. Eventually a task will appear in the execution queue, and it will be executed.

Tasks are actually executed by calling function t__xtsk. T__xtsk first calls t_rtmark to stop accumulating processor cycles to the task scheduler. It then calls function t__dspap, which is the converse of function t__trmap. It restores an application stack and then loads the machine registers from it. Control will exit from t__dspap to the point following an earlier call to t__trmap, and the application will run until it terminates (or is terminated).

Control will then return to the point following the call to *t*__dspap in function *t*__xtsk. The return code set by *t*_term and its associated functions is then presented to *t*__xtsk, which passes it back to *t*__krnl when *t*__xtsk returns. Before returning, *t*__xtsk again calls *t*__rtmark. This time the call causes subsequent processor cycles to be accumulated to the task scheduler.

*T*__xtsk is able to determine the actual execution time of the application task. This can be much less than a full system tick interval if the application was interrupted many times. If the true execution time is less than a certain threshold, t__xtsk immediately executes the task again. This is done only if the task was preempted. If the task terminated itself (by calling t_spnd, t_rels, or t_wait), no check of execution time is made.

If the task had a fair chance at the processor, or terminated itself, control returns from *t*_*xtsk* to *t*_*krnl*. Now the return code established by *t*_*term* and the others is

examined. If the return is less than 0, function t_inxq is called to move the task to the bottom of the execution queue. If the return is 0, function t_inpq is called to move the task to the priority queues. Otherwise function t_inwq is called to insert the task into the wait queue. That completes the task scheduler loop, which is often called a monitor or supervisor cycle in other operating systems.

Multitasking System Techniques

Tele uses its central task-scheduling algorithm to support other features. Figure 1 indicates that function *t_sch* moves tasks from the priority queue to the bottom of the execution queue. This function is not called by any other task. It is placed in the execution queue when the system is initialized. When it executes, it enters the system state and processes the priority queues, taking tasks from P to the bottom of X. It places itself at the bottom of the execution queue last. Therefore, when all the tasks it has scheduled have been run, it will run again itself in order to schedule more.

It is easy to extend this concept to several versions of *t*__*sch*, each operating on a different set of priority queues. Some IBM mainframe operating systems obtain a similar effect with programs called initiators.

A similar function is *t_clndr*, which lives in the wait queue. It provides for long-term calendar functions by periodically executing and then rescheduling itself in the wait queue. As shown in Figure 1, the wait queue accounts for a short time—about 30,000 ticks. At a 120-Hz tick clock rate, this is about 4.5 minutes. *T_clndr* executes once every minute. It examines an extended calendar file on disk, and as the time to execute programs nears, it creates tasks in the wait queue.

High-Resolution Clock

Tele measures the execution time of every application task. It also measures the amount of time spent processing the system tick interrupt and scheduling the next task. This is done with a resolution of 15 microseconds.

A standard IBM PC uses one channel of an 8257 DMA (direct memory access) controller to refresh dynamic memory. Dynamic memory chips are based on leaky capacitors, which means they must be read periodically in order to maintain their contents (when read, the chip automatically recharges its capacitors). Most dynamic memory chips can be properly refreshed by reading 128 consecutive addresses every 2 milliseconds. Most PCs do this by programming one channel of the same 8253 counter to produce a signal with a 15-microsecond period. This signal then requests the DMA controller to read the memory. Special circuitry causes all memory chips to be read at once (the data read is ignored). The DMA controller automatically increments its address after each request.

The processor can read the current address in the DMA controller at any time. Because the refresh circuitry runs continuously from the time the computer is powered up, the current address is a convenient high-resolution clock.

In standard PCs, the processor clock and 8253 clock are both derived from the same crystal. They therefore maintain a constant phase difference. When the tick clock is (continued from page 25)

started, the current reading of the high-resolution clock is saved. This allows programs to relate the high-resolution clock to the current time of day and make absolute time measurements to within 15 microseconds.

Tele itself only uses the high-resolution clock to count processor cycles. A refresh cycle is 72 processor cycles on a 4.77-MHz processor—it is more on faster ones. Therefore the number of processor cycles measured can vary from run to run. The count tends to become more accurate as longer runs are measured.

Function *t_rtmark* (Listing Four) is provided to read the high-resolution clock. It keeps track of the previous reading so that each time it is called it accumulates the interval just terminated toward some task. Tele mostly measures execution time to document its actions. This data is useful in tuning the system and diagnosing some application problems. The only regular use made of it is in rerunning

tasks that get short execution intervals because of heavy interrupt service.

Installation

Tele is designed to be a collection of programmers' tools. The listings with this article are suitable for inclusion with small-memory-model C programs. To make them work, you must assemble and compile them into a library. Then you can reference these functions from your own programs.

I developed the code using the Lattice C compiler, Version 2, and Microsoft MASM assembler, Version 1. I later upgraded to Versions 3 and 4 and had to make minor changes. If you use Lattice C, Version 3, you should include the switches -w -cc in the LC1 command line. This specifies word alignment of variables and nested comments. If you use another compiler, you must ensure these conditions and may have to make other changes as well. The assembly-language programs contain macros (pseg, endps, dseg, and endds) defined with the Lattice

Books on Operating System Design

The principles and practice of operating system design cannot be communicated in one magazine article. The two books reviewed here should be on the desk of any operating system builder. Prentice-Hall has been doing great things with computer-science textbooks during the last few years, publishing a series of texts that are both well written and practically oriented. All too often, computer-science texts are neither. They're incomprehensible unless you're a mathematician, and from reading the book, you'd have no idea that the subjects covered had any practical application. In fact, the only thing that's difficult with many computer-science topics is understanding the books. This review discusses two welcome exceptions to the incomprehensibility rule, both on the subject of operating system design.

Biggerstaff, Ted J. Systems Software Tools. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1986.

Systems Software Tools is about multitasking operating systems. Over the course of the book, Ted Biggerstaff develops a small multitasking kernel that supports up to four concurrently executing processes, each running in its own window. The system runs on an IBM PC, but the book is not really targeted at IBM programmers. For the most part, DOS is used as an I/O system rather than as an operating system. Though a certain amount of space is devoted by necessity to IBM-specific topics, it's easy to port both the concepts and the code to a different environment.

The book breaks up its subject into the same layers that are found in the operating system itself, organized from the machine outward. That is, the earliest chapters talk about how to interface to the actual hardware, and the subject develops gradually to the user interface, presented in the last chapter.

Biggerstaff starts out with a quick summary of the C

programming language. It's not a tutorial, but enough of the language is covered that you'll be able to follow the code in the remainder of the book (provided that you know a language such as Pascal pretty well). There's also a discussion of DOS interfacing conventions and how to use the DOS I/O system. These chapters are lucid and cover all the basics of DOS interfacing. They're pretty useful in their own right. Because the main thrust of the book isn't DOS interfacing, it's good that the author has concentrated all the DOS-specific stuff in one place.

Systems Software Tools starts really moving in Chapter 4, which discusses interrupt processing and communications hardware. In this and the next chapter, Biggerstaff develops a low-level, interrupt-driven console I/O system, discussing such topics as I/O queues and writing interrupt service routines. The I/O system is exercised with a terminal emulator program that works directly with the hardware, bypassing DOS entirely. Chapter 6 is a discussion of concurrent operating systems in general, explaining how multitasking works and covering most of the essential topics, such as scheduling strategies and interprocess communications. The basic data structures, such as task control blocks, are developed in Chapter 7, and Chapter 8 discusses process management—how to get two programs to run at the same time and how to transfer control from one to the other. Finally, the last chapter ties it all together and presents a viable user interface built around a simple windowing system.

Biggerstaff's operating system, though it's pretty nifty, does have a few flaws. It doesn't do low-level disk I/O but uses DOS system calls when necessary. This approach is pragmatic because a primitive disk I/O system is readily available for most machines, but it's not much help if you want to learn how to put a disk I/O system together from scratch. Because all the code is written in

compiler. These macros define the proper segment structure for linking with the C modules.

Installation is accomplished by calling function *t__init* (Listing One). When control returns, your program will be executing as a single task, and others may be executed at the same time. You can create additional tasks by calling function *t_crt*. They can be destroyed by calling *t_del*. See Listing One for the calling procedures.

It's important to call function *t_term* before returning to MS-DOS. If you don't, an interrupt vector will be left pointing into the transient program area. It is likely that a hard crash will result the next time a program is loaded unless you call function *t_term* to restore the original vector.

The last part of Listing One contains a *main* function. This tests the task scheduler by creating two subtasks. Each subtask continually increments a counter, and the program displays the current values on the display. Though *main()* and *count()* are not part of the task scheduler, they do serve as an example of its use.

Conclusion

Tele's task scheduler actively participates in the execution of every task, but it is almost always transparent. Most tasks can assume they are running under a single-tasking system. They can take advantage of services associated with multitasking, such as intertask communication, without significantly altering their structure.

An expanded version of this code is available from me for \$100. It's available as a programmer's tool and includes full source code and precompiled libraries for all 8086 memory models, more detailed documentation than is possible here, and diagnostic functions useful for debugging modifications.

Further information is available from Berry Computer, P.O. Box 966, Jackson, CA 95642; (209) 223-0993.

DDJ

(Listings begin on page 50.)

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C, the system response times are slower than need be, too. I'm not sure what the context-swap time is, but it's probably too slow for many real-time applications. On the other hand, the C is much more readable than the equivalent assembler would be, and once you know the theory, translating the C to assembler is not too difficult. Finally, the system presented is not compatible with anything. This isn't necessarily a problem—for example, the code would ROM quite nicely if you want to build a little stand-alone system that runs on a single-board computer.

On the other hand, Systems Software Tools is a very good introduction to operating system design in general. The system presented is pretty useful, in spite of its flaws, and you've got the entire source code if you want to make changes. I recommend this book to anyone who's already a reasonably proficient programmer and wants a good introduction to very-low-level systems programming. A knowledge of C and a little assembler is useful but not essential. The book is readable and well organized, and all the subjects covered have immediate application. The code is well written and nicely illustrates the theoretical concepts presented in the text. Moreover, a complete program is presented that you could type into your machine and run (you can also get the code on IBM-compatible disk). The code is most applicable to IBM PC-based machines, but the operating system itself is portable to just about any environment.

Comer, Douglas. Operating System Design, The XINU Approach. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1984.

Douglas Comer's *Operating System Design, The XINU Approach* is a good complement to Biggerstaff's book. It's more advanced and covers most of the topics that Biggerstaff omits. On the other hand, Comer presents the operating system only—he offers absolutely no utilities, not even a shell or user interface.

XINU, a stand-alone operating system that includes both a disk I/O system and file server, is presented in its

entirety. As with Biggerstaff's book, you could type in the code and have a complete operating system. XINU stands for "Xinu Is Not Unix," and the name is apt. XINU is a scaled-down Unix. All the essential parts of the kernel are there, and they are functionally very similar to their Unix equivalents. There's a Unix-like device-driver mechanism, and the disk is organized much as Unix organizes its own disk. The code presented is not Unix source code, however; it's Comer's implementation of that code. XINU is not a toy—it's a complete operating system that should be useful in virtually any application you might cook up (with the possible exception of real-time control systems).

XINU was originally written for an LSI 11/02, but it contains virtually no machine-specific code and so is quite portable. It was developed on a larger machine and downloaded to the target machine. There's almost no assembly language in XINU; the overwhelming majority of the code is in C. Its disk I/O system interfaces to a Xebec S-1410 5½-inch Winchester controller. The Xebec presents a pretty standard hardware interface, and the techniques presented should port to most other controllers with little difficulty.

Comer's book is too involved to dissect chapter by chapter. Like Biggerstaff, he's organized the chapters in terms of functional layers, but he covers many more layers. Comer covers the basic stuff in a somewhat cursory manner that might be confusing if you've never seen any of the material before. He also doesn't present as much theory as I'd like, limiting himself to the implementation of a specific operating system rather than to discussing operating systems in general. On the other hand, XINU is a powerful, complete operating system and it's all there for you to examine.

Both of these books are good—Biggerstaff's is more introductory and Comer's more complete—but taken together they provide a good introduction to operating system design. I recommend them highly.—Allen Holub



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In Search of a Sine

was recently involved in a project for which I needed to compute sines and cosines of angles on the NS320xx microprocessor with a floating-point coprocessor. I looked through several years' worth of the more erudite microcomputer magazines (including, I must admit, DDJ), some mathematics and computer-science textbooks, and the source code of some programs that included sine computation routines. Despite my searching, though, I was unable to find any useful algorithms for computing mathematical functions in general and sines in particular. I was looking for an algorithm explained in simple terms, along with a reasonably well-commented program for carrying it out.

I did find several potential answers. but for various reasons none of them were usable. Some of them were too vague or mathematically complicated for me to understand well enough to program them. Another was an uncommented program for the 8080 CPU in which the sine computation algorithm was obscured by the floatingpoint arithmetic routines. One was an uncommented program written in STOIC (a Forth-like, stack-oriented language) that was impossible to figure out well enough to recode it. Another involved exponentiation of e, which was computationally impossible for me.

The Taylor Series

I finally got the hints I needed from the Mathematical Tables section of the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics from the Chemical Rubber Company. There I found a Taylor series formula for the sine of an angle. The

Richard A. Campbell, 198 Washington Hwy., Snyder, NY 14226 by Richard A. Campbell

I was unable to find any useful algorithms for computing mathematical functions.

series can be expressed as:

$$s = a - (a^3/3!) + (a^5/5!) - (a^7/7!)...$$

where a is the angle (in radians), s is the sine, and! is the operator for factorials (the factorial of an integer n is the product of n with all integers smaller than itself and greater than 1). Because the factorials of relatively small numbers can be calculated easily (for example, $4! = 2 \times 3 \times 4 = 24$), this seemed like a simple enough algorithm. I coded it up in BASIC and tried it out by computing the sines of several angles, starting at 0° or radians and comparing the results with the values in the Mathematical Tables, which are printed to five decimal places.

It became obvious that it was computationally faster to precompute coefficients that included the value of 1 divided by the factorial and the sign of the term. Thus, the series above became:

$$s = a - (0.166666 \times a^{3})$$

$$+ (0.00833333 \times a^{5})$$

$$- (0.0001984127 \times a^{7}) \dots$$

Working with this test program revealed that the number of terms needed to approach the accuracy of

the five-place tables was dependent on the size of the angle. For angles up to 90°, five terms were needed (through a⁹ divided by 9!). This seemed computationally reasonable. But to get up to 120°, seven terms were needed (through a¹³ divided by 13!). At this point I realized this approach was not feasible because an algorithm that can't compute the sines of large angles is of little use.

Quadrants of the Circle

The way out of this dilemma is to consider the angles in quadrants by thinking of the sines starting at 0° and progressing around the circle. As the angle increases from 0° to 90°, the sines go up from 0 to +1. From there to 180°, the sines return to 0, pass down to -1 at 270°, and then return to 0 at 360°. Thus the sine of an angle between 90° and 180° is equal to the sine of 180° minus the angle. Table 1, page 31, shows a summary of all this. If the quadrant is determined, you need only be able to compute sines from 0° to 90° efficiently.

Doing It in BASIC

When I considered the quadrant phenomenon, the uncommented programs I had discovered began to make more sense. One was particularly interesting because it seemed to involve only four coefficients. It's in the STOIC floating-point-routine file (CP/M Users' Group) and is credited to J. Sachs, 1977. Frankly, I'm not sure I've interpreted Sachs' approach as intended, but the following does work.

First, scale the incoming angle to quadrants such that an angle of 90° (1.570795 radians) is made to equal 1. If you're working in radians, this means dividing by 1.570795; if you're using degrees, divide by 90. Then, if

the scaled angle is greater than 4 (360°), subtract 4 from it and repeat the comparison (and subtraction) until it's less than 4. Then compare with 3 (270°) and 1 (90°) and adjust as appropriate based on Table 1.

Compute the sine approximation as:

$$s = (C1 \times a) + (C2 \times a^3) + (C3 \times a^5) + (C4 \times a^7)$$

where the coefficients are:

C1 = 1.570795 C2 = -0.645921 C3 = 0.07948765C4 = -0.004362469

Remember that the standard Taylor series approximation has the input angle expressed in radians; these are scaled to proportions of 90° . So the coefficients are the same as those of the standard series divided into 1.570795 and raised to the appropriate power, rather than 1. For example, C2 is -1.570795 to the third power divided by 3! (approximately).

The actual computation, in BASIC, is given in Table 2, page 32. Sines calculated in this way will usually agree with the table values; some are off by 1 on the fifth place. This seems like a tolerable error. Runs of 1,000 sines of angles from 0° to 100° in 0.1° steps indicate that each sine takes about 28 milliseconds to compute on a 6-MHz NS16032 CPU.

The above algorithm can be used for cosines simply by doing the scaling and then adding 1 (adding 90°, actually), then computing the sine. Compute the tangent by computing sine and cosine and then dividing sine by cosine (checking for zero cosine, of course.)

Doing It in Assembler

The NS320xx assembly-language routine (Table 3, page 32) is about 210 bytes long, including the coefficient constants and the temporary storage space. Runs calculating 10,000 functions of angles from 0° to 100° in 0.1° steps indicate that sines and cosines take 0.9 milliseconds to compute and tangents take 1.3 milliseconds on a 6-MHz 16032 CPU. The results, rounded to five decimal places, generally agree with the table values; occasionally errors of 1 in the fifth place occur

with sines and cosines. Tangent errors are slightly greater; sometimes errors of 2 in the fifth place happen.

The binary values of the constants in the program were determined by setting BASIC variables equal to the desired numbers and then examining the symbol table in memory with a debugging program.

Reading the Listing

The motion of arguments in NS320xx instructions is from left to right. The CPU and the coprocessor each have eight registers, numbered *R0* through *R7*. The instruction *MOVBF 1,R1*, for

example, takes a byte-sized integer 1, converts it to floating-point format, and leaves it in coprocessor register (CPR) 1. DIVF R2,R3 divides the operand in CPR 3 by the operand in CPR 2 and leaves the quotient in CPR 3.

The instruction MOV.D O(RO)/R6:D, SNTAB may need some explanation. The meaning may not be obvious because it involves an ad-

```
sine of 0^{\circ} to 90^{\circ} = sine of angle
sine of 90^{\circ} to 180^{\circ} = sine of 180^{\circ}-angle
sine of 180^{\circ} to 270^{\circ} = —sine of angle-180^{\circ}
sine of 270^{\circ} to 360^{\circ} = —sine of 360^{\circ}-angle
```

Table 1: Range reduction for SIN(x)

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COMPUTING SINES (continued from page 31)

dressing mode not available on most microprocessors: It performs a 32-bit move from the address in *R0* plus zero indexed by (plus) the contents of *R6* multiplied by 4 (the length of the moved data) into *SNTAB*. Thus *R6* contains the entry number in *SNTAB*—not a byte displacement but rather a double word displacement—and *R0* contains the base address of the table.

Another possibly confusing instruction is *MULF R5,SNTAB*. In this case, you might think it would be more efficient to move the coefficient into a register rather than to use memory. I had previously discovered, however, that the use of CPU registers (address

and/or index) and a coprocessor register in the same instruction often leads to chaos. This is not pointed out well in National Semiconductor's documentation.

The rest of the program is fairly straightforward and should be direct-

ly applicable to any CPU that is comparable to the NS320xx in power.

DDJ

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```
APOW = AN : REM AN = SCALED ANGLE
SINE = AN × C1 : REM C'S AS ABOVE
APOW = APOW × AN : REM FIGURE AN ^3
APOW = APOW × AN
SINE = SINE + APOW × C2 : REM ADD TERM
APOW = APOW × AN : REM FIGURE AN ^5
APOW = APOW × AN
SINE = SINE + APOW × C3 : REM ADD TERM
APOW = APOW × AN : REM FIGURE AN ^7
APOW = APOW × AN : REM FIGURE AN ^7
APOW = APOW × AN
SINE = SINE + APOW × C4 : REM ADD TERM
```

that the use of CPU registers (address | Table 2: Polynomial approximation in BASIC

	ne: Computin XX assemble	g sine, cosine, r	and tangent		MOVF MOVBF	R1,R5 0,R3	;and in R5 ;sine starts at zero
; Sine, cosine, & tangent routines				SinLp	MOV.D	0(R0)[R6:D],	SNTAB ;get multiplier
RadScl	MOVF	PIO2,R2	; Divide by $pi/2 = 1.57079635$		MULF	R5,SNTAB	;mult angle
nausu	BR.S	DoScal	, Divide by $p_1/2 = 1.57079033$		ADDF	SNTAB,R3	;add to sine
	DR.S	Doscai			MULF	R1,R5	;angle ^ n+2
DegScl	MOVBF	90,R2	;Scale for degrees		MULF	R1,R5	
· Coolo for	sin cos, tan				ACB.BS	-1,R6,SinLp	o;do again till done
DoScal	DIVF	R2,R3	;Now 90 degrees = 1.00		RET		
DQuadr	MOVBF	4,R4	;4 = 360 degrees = 1.00	; Compute	Top(v)		
DQuaur	MOVBF	1,R1	;1 = 90 degrees		Sin(x)/Cos(x)		
	MOVBF	2,R2	; 1 = 90 degrees ; 2 = 180	, Idil(x) —	311(x)/C05(x)		
	MOVBF	3,R5	3 = 270	ATan	MOVBF	90,R2	;scale for degrees
SnScl1	CMPF	R3,R4			DIVF	R2,R3	
3113611	BLT.S	SnScl3	;Is angle > 360 degrees? ;go if less than 360		MOVF	R3,SNTEMP	;save scaled angle
	SUBF	R4,R3	:else subtract 360		BSR	DQuadr	;figure quadrant
		SnScl1			BSR	DoSin	;compute sin
SnScl3	BR.S CMPF	R3,R5	;do it again ;>270?		MOVF	R3,TOS	;save sine on stack
3113013	BLE.S	SnScl5			MOVBF	1,R3	
	SUBF	R4,R3	;no, go		ADDFF	SNTEMP,R3	;add for cosine
SnScl5	CMPF	R3,R1	;make minus: ang=ang-360		BSR	DQuadr	;figure quadrant
3113013	BLE.S	ScnCl7	;>90?		BSR	DoSin	;compute cosine
	SUBF	R3,R2			MOVF	R3,R2	;move cosine to R2
			.ana 180 ana		MOVF	TOS,R3	;recover sine
ScnCl7	MOVF RET	R2,R3	;ang=180-ang :scaled value in R3	; R0 now	= 0		
SCHOI	HEI		,scaled value in As		CMPF	R0,R2	;have zero?
ACos	MOVBF	90,R2	;angle, degrees in R3		BNE.S	ATanDv	;no, divide
	DIVF	R2,R3	;divide by 90		MOVF	FNSM,R3	;else use big number
	MOVBF	1,R2			RET		
	ADDF	R2,R3	;make angle plus 90	ATanDv	DIVE	D0 D0	-T C:-/O
	BSR	DQuadr	;figure quadrant	Alanby	DIVF	R2,R3	;Tan = Sin/Cos
	BR.S	DoSin	;go do sine, return from it		RET		
ASin	BSR	DegScl	;Angle in degrees	FNSM	BYTE	0,0C0h,0DAI	h,45h ;7000
		Bogool	;Fall through to	PIO2	BYTE	0DBh,0Fh,0C	9h,3Fh ;pi/2 = 1.5707963
; Compute	` ,			SNTEMP	BLK.D	1	;temporary storage
; Sine $= 0$		*X -0.645921		SNTAB	BLK.D	1	;temp
	+ 0.079467	65*X^5 — 0.00)4362469*X^7		e in reverse ord	Sept. 14 (1975)	
DoSin	ADDR	SNTAB,R0	;get address of table		BYTE		n,0BBh ;-0.004362469
	MOVQ.D	4,R6	;init R6		BYTE		th,03Dh ;0.07948765
; Enter wit		in R0, # terms			BYTE	14h,5Bh,25h,	
	MOVF	R3,R1	;save angle in R1		BYTE		9h,3Fh ;1.570795

Table 3: Computing TAN(x) from SIN(x)/COS(x)

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Inventor and entrepreneur, Dick Erett, explains his company's view on the

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Echelon's Z-System

ichard Conn's public-domain ZCPR3 is an enhanced substitute for CP/M 2.2's console command processor (CCP). Echelon, a software firm headed by public-domain pioneer Frank Gaudè, has combined ZCPR3 with Dennis Wright's ZRDOS, a Z80-optimized BDOS replacement, to form the joint nucleus of an 8-bit operating system supported by a cluster of customized tools, utilities, libraries, and hardcopy manuals. The term Z-System refers specifically to the operating system itself (ZCPR3 combined with ZRDOS) and generically to Echelon's entire line of ZCPR3 utilities and software tools.

In this article, I'll evaluate the ZCPR3-ZRDOS nucleus of Z-System from the viewpoint of an advanced programmer, stressing its program design and structure.

Versions of Z-System

Echelon sells Z-System in two basic forms: Joseph Wright's auto-install version, Z-Com, which uses a host CP/ M 2.2 system to overlay the CCP and BDOS with ZCPR3 and ZRDOS and then expands the host CBIOS to make room for memory-resident utilities and buffers; and a manual-install or "hacker" version consisting of the source codes for all system components and utilities except the optional ZRDOS. The SIG/M public-domain version omits the proprietary ZRDOS but comes with Conn's SYSLIB3 and derivative Z3LIB and VLIB libraries of Z80 routines used in the assembly of Z-System components.

Z-Com (\$119) is the better choice for turnkey systems, inexperienced users, or anyone who wants to install a

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Z-System is an 8-bit operating system for Z80 systems.

complete Z-System in a few minutes. Advanced programmers who will be doing major customizations to Z-System segments have both the development tools and the assembly-language skills needed to install the more expensive but flexible manual version (\$182.50 with ZRDOS, if purchased piecemeal from Echelon).

The major difference between the two versions is that Z-Com requires the presence of CP/M 2.2 to boot it as a transient command file. In contrast, the manual installation procedure completely replaces the CP/M CCP and BDOS on the system tracks with ZCPR3 and ZRDOS (if present) to produce a bootable Z-System disk. In addition to Z-Com's use of CP/M to boot itself, the two versions differ in that Z-Com's system components are preselected and contained in a set of object-code files. With Z-Com, major changes and additions can be tricky and may require some disassembly and patching. Z-Nodes, a remote bulletin-board network of international Z-System users, distributes useful public-domain patch files to make this job a little easier.

The manual-install version comes with the source code for all major system components (except the optional proprietary ZRDOS) so that users can modify any feature of ZCPR3 separately to suit their needs or hard-

ware requirements. Assembly of the altered code requires a good relocatable macro assembler, preferably one that can assemble Zilog mnemonics, and standard system alteration and debugging utilities such as MOVCPM, SYSGEN, and DDT or their equivalents. Modification and reassembly of the individual utilities may also require access to the appropriate Z-System source-code libraries—SYSLIB3, Z3LIB, and VLIB.

Components

Each version uses its own installation procedures and design principles to achieve the same functional result. In either case, the user's CBIOS is modified and extended by several optional memory-resident system segments—customized packages of Z80 code and buffer areas. A complete Z-System includes

- ZCPR3, the console command processor
- either BDOS or ZRDOS
- · a modified CBIOS
- a revised page zero with jump addresses to the new CBIOS and BDOS or ZRDOS and new buffers (in the manual version)

The modified CBIOS contains

- the original BIOS codes
- an initializing routine that sets Z-System equates and addresses
- the Resident Command Package (RCP) (a cluster of memory-resident utilities)
- the Input/Output Package (IOP) (space reserved for customized I/O drivers)
- the Flow Command Package (FCP) (equates used by system utilities that permit conditional logic and flow states)

- the Environment Descriptor (Z3ENV) (system equates used by utilities)
- buffers, stacks, and equates (reserved spaces for shell operations, messages shared by several utilities, named directories, RAM registers, and assorted byte or word locations such as the "wheel" security byte)

Figures 1 and 2, below, illustrate memory-map differences for the two versions using sample addresses from a TeleVideo 803 64K RAM. Segment sizes and locations will vary with other systems.

The auto-install version makes Z-System transportable to a wide variety of memory structures because it involves less alteration of the user's CBIOS than the manual version does. With Z-Com, the entire Z-System package is loaded in front of the original CBIOS, extending it and overwriting both the CP/M BDOS and CCP. A new jump table at the first RAM page of the relocated CBIOS intercepts system calls and redirects them to Z-System segments such as the Input/Out-

put Package or to the original CBIOS jump locations. The system segments and buffers are loaded between the new and old CBIOS jump tables. ZRDOS and the ZCPR3 command processor reside below this extended CBIOS, at somewhat lower addresses than CP/M'S CCP and BDOS did in the host system.

When I first started using Z-System, I was disturbed by this loss of vital RAM space, as any serious 8-bit user should be. I soon realized, however, that most CP/M 2.2 programs are written so tightly that they seldom require a TPA of more than 40K or so. This is a tribute to 8080 and Z80 assembly-language programmers who can never afford the 16-bit luxury of bulky and redundant code-there's just no room for it. Even when CP/M programs overwrite the command processor, they often are just using the BDOS (or ZRDOS) address stored at location 0006H in page zero as a convenient way to set up a program stack that will work on any CP/M system. The TPA between the end of a program and the end of its stack is often an empty space of more than 20K, whereas the Z-System extensions require only around 6K.

The manual-install version shown in Figure 1 saves a little more RAM space (512 bytes) by moving the CBIOS downward, placing the external path buffer and wheel byte in page zero and relocating the original BIOS jump table. If ZRDOS is installed, it resides directly beneath the original BIOS jump table, just as the BDOS does in CP/M systems. All ZCPR3 external segments and buffers reside above the original CBIOS, except for an initializing routine poked into the used cold-boot loader space.

ZCPR3 and Its Extensions

The heart of either Z-System version is Conn's ZCPR3 command processor with its internal enhancements and CBIOS extensions. ZCPR3 users have many optional and enhanced internal commands, such as *SAVE*, *GO*, *JUMP*, *TYPE*, and others, that are unavailable in CP/M 2.2. Multiple and

FF _	original ROM and BIOS buffers
	ZCPR3 external stack
D0	ZCPR3 command-line buffer
00 –	named directory buffer
D0 _	external FCB
80	message buffers
00	shell stack
00 -	environment descriptors (Z3ENV and TCAP)
00	Flow Command Packages
00	Input/Output Packages
00	Resident Command Packages
00 –	original BIOS with ZCPR3 loader in cold-boot routine
00	ZRDOS or CP/M BDOS
00	ZCPR3 command processor
	48K TPA (48,896 bytes free)
00	page zero with wheel byte, New jump addresses, and external path buffer

Hexadecimal addresses are system-dependent and optional. This example is based upon a composite of Conn's model in *ZCPR3: The Manual* and my own Z-System segments within a TeleVideo CBIOS.

Figure 1: A complete manual-install version of Z-System

FFFF _	
FE00	original ROM and BIOS buffers
EA00	original BIOS
F400	Input/Output Packages
E200	Flow Command Packages
DA00	Resident Command Packages
1000	ZCPR3 external stack
D9D0	ZCPR3 command-line buffer
D900	environment descriptors (Z3ENV and TCAP)
D800	wheel byte
D7FF	command search path
D7F4	external FCB
D7D0	message buffers
D780	shell stack
D700	named directory buffer
D600	Z-Com initializer/jump table
D400	ZRDOS
C600 -	ZCPR3 command processor
	48K TPA (48,384 bytes free)
0100	modified page zero with new buffer areas and jump addresses

Hexadecimal addresses are system-dependent and optional. This example is based upon one of my own system images using a 64K Tele Video 803 CBIOS.

Figure 2: A complete auto-install (Z-Com) version of Z-System

ECHELON'S Z-SYSTEM (continued from page 37)

extended command processing, instantaneous user area or directory selection, command path assignment, and wheel access control are some of the internal ZCPR3 options that are often found only on larger systems. By skillful assembly-language programming, Conn has squeezed these and other features into the original 2K CCP space in order to maintain compatibility with earlier CP/M programs

for which the CCP size is critical. Although these enhancements in the body of the command processor are definitely valuable, ZCPR3's unique advantages lie in the external Z-System segments.

ZCPR3's modular components reside in high memory for fast access, increasing the power and flexibility of the command processor beyond that of any other 8-bit operating system and for some operations of larger ones as well. These fast resident utilities actually permit users of tiny 8-bit,

64K systems to enjoy the speed and efficiency of a RAM disk for many routine tasks.

The modular design of the ZCPR3 CBIOS extensions permits users to modify any resident utilities, named directory structures, flow control states, input/output drivers, command paths, and most other Z-System features whenever they choose to change or add to them.

With the manual-install version, you can perform massive alterations upon any of these features simply by editing and reassembling one or more well-documented source files into a variety of relocatable object-code segments. With the Z-Com version, you may have to disassemble some object code in order to tailor the system segments to suit your needs. When either object-code package is ready, you can use a fast loader utility (LDR.COM) to reinstall different system segments instantly to fit changing jobs.

You might, for example, wish to use separate resident command packages (RCPs) for word processing and assembly-language programming, with different resident utilities in each one to reduce disk access time. I have several manuscript-editing aids in a word-processing RCP and a fine memory editor (MU3) in another RCP I use for programming. An alias batch command reconfigures my CBIOS by loading one of these specialized command packages automatically each time I enter its respective directory area. Because resident command packages always reside in RAM, I can run any of these utilities at high speed without modifying any TPA code.

Z-System's named directories are more convenient and flexible than the Unix-style MS-DOS directories I use in an IBM-equipped computer laboratory. ZCPR3's directories are based upon CP/M's user areas, yielding up to 32 possible directories or subdirectories with optional passwords on any one "level." You need to expand the default named directory buffer if you plan to use more than 14 directory names at one time.

All ZCPR3 directories exist on the same level to the operating system, but you can create a Unix-style hierarchical effect by overlaying previous levels automatically with the change

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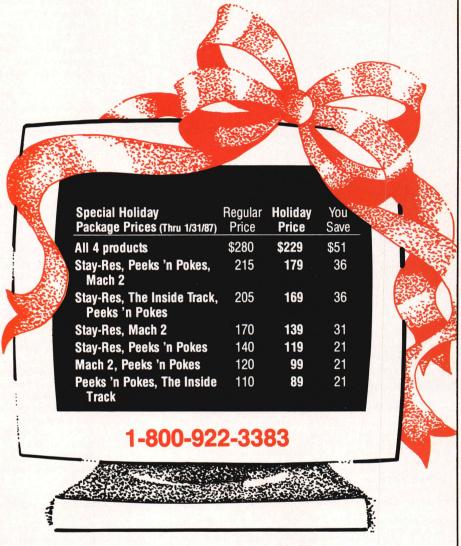
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73FNV

SET

ODC00H

- No other equates should be changed!
- [This is the address of the environment
- descriptor. Addresses and segment sizes are more
- critical in Z-Com than in the manual-install
- version. Note that all other addresses are
- offset from the environment descriptor.]
- General equates

talse	equ	0
true	equ	not false
base	equ	0
i8080	equ	false
expath	equ	z3env-0ch
expaths	equ	5

z3whl equ

rcp eau rcps equ

qoi equ iops equ

z3env-1 z3env + 200h

z3env + 0c00h

[for 8080 systems]

[command path] [5 2-byte elements]

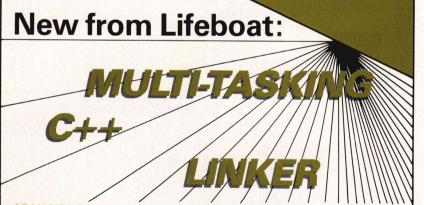
[wheel byte address] [address of Resident

Command Package and 16-block size]

[address of Input/ Output Package and 12-block sizel

[code continues to define all segments]

Table 1: Excerpt from Z-COM version of Z3BASE.LIB. Comments in square brackets are mine.



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ECHELON'S Z-SYSTEM

(continued from page 38)

directory (CD) and alias commands. This causes a new named directory system to be loaded into the CBIOS and reorganizes all the files contained in the new user areas you tell the system to "see." The result can be a virtual hierarchy of dynamic subdirectories, or a flat passworded subdirectory layer, or whatever you wish it to be. As with the other modular extensions of the command processor, the package of directory names can be changed by simple editing, and a special make directory (MKDIR) utility is provided just for that purpose.

The buffers and locations used by the various components of Z-System must be initialized at the time ZCPR3 and ZRDOS (if present) are loaded. In the manual version, a configuration routine resides in the CBIOS cold-boot loader area from which it assigns all ZCPR3 internal and external options as well as external buffers and other CBIOS locations. Changing parameters, addresses, or buffer sizes is a simple matter of editing two header files, Z3HDR.LIB and Z3BASE.LIB, and making whatever secondary changes are required elsewhere, especially when you have changed the size of a segment buffer or two.

In the manual-install version, Z3HDR.LIB contains users' options for most ZCPR3 features and commands and Z3BASE.LIB defines the locations of external segments. In Z-Com's version of Z3BASE.LIB (Table 1, above), these addresses are all defined as offsets from a single environment descriptor location determined by the installation process. You can still poke or patch changes in the object code of Z-Com components if you know what you're doing.

When assembled, the Z3BASE.LIB header file becomes the first half of ZCPR3's environment descriptor, Z3ENV, which gives Z-System a major transportability advantage over other 8-bit operating systems. The descriptor is merely a duplex header file containing default or user-defined information such as the addresses of all Z-System segments, CRT and printer values, CPU speed, cursor and highlighting controls, and many other system-specific details.

All Z-System utilities use the de-

scriptor's data to customize their operation and to communicate with the system segments. In order to install a new utility inside your operating system, you merely place a pointer to Z3ENV in the utility's source code and refer all system-dependent routines to it. Table 2, below, illustrates this use of the environment descriptor in the source code for a fast file-find utility.

Calls to the Terminal Capabilities (TCAP) half of the environment descriptor permit the immediate transportability of any software that uses terminal-specific features such as video graphics, windowing, and pull-down menus. Users can customize their programs instantly to take ad-

vantage of special terminal features such as graphics characters and cursor positioning codes. Neither software nor hardware differences will interfere with transportability of Z-System programs as long as the Z3ENV pointer is properly installed. A special utility, Z3INS.COM, can install or reinstall the Z3ENV address quickly in any object-code files written for Z-System use.

ZCPR3's flow control and multiple command features are essential components of shells and interactive menus. Both permit users to construct long conditional arguments that are useful in the automation of complex tasks. ZEX (an extended command processor), VFILER (a file-sweep

This is the address of the customized Z3ENV OFE00H Z3ENV SET These are external macros found in Conn's SYSLIB and Z3LIB libraries Z3INIT,GETNDR,GETWHL,CODEND EXT COUT, CRLF, PRINT, PADC This conditional assembly statement tests the code for the address of an external Z3ENV. IF Z3ENV NE 0 External Z3ENV found. Go to first instruction. JP START DB 'Z3ENV' Label indicating that this is a ZCPR3 utility. DB 1 Code for external Z3ENV. Z3EADR: Address of external DW Z3ENV START: Z3ENV descriptor. LD HL,(Z3EADR) Point to external descriptor. ELSE Conditional assembly still functioning. If external Z3ENV is not present, one must be installed in utility itself by calling macros from Z3BASE.LIB and SYSENV.LIB during assembly. MACLIB Z3BASE.LIB Note extended SYSENV.LIB Intel format. MACLIB Z3EADR: JP. SYSENV is a macro used START to equip utility with SYSENV internal descriptor. START: LD HL, Z3EADR Point to internal descriptor. End of ELSE condition. **ENDIF** Move Z3ENV pointer to **PUSH** HL POP IX Index Register X. **Z3INIT** Initializes Z3ENV. CALL Code continues. LD HL.0

Table 2: Excerpt from FINDF24.Z80, a fast find utility written by Richard Conn. All comments are mine.

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ECHELON'S Z-SYSTEM (continued from page 43)

utility with macro options), and VMENU (an interactive shell of complex user options) are just a few of the many Z-System utilities that rely on flow control and multiple command processing for their power.

One of CP/M's strengths is its input/ output redirection capability that uses the STAT command to revise the I/O byte at location 0003H. Z-System permits you to retain the CP/M device-assignment procedures or to use its own more efficient design

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based on the I/O drivers loaded as Input/Output Packages (IOPs). The Z-System approach to device assignment places any number of device drivers into memory, but only when needed. In contrast, the CP/M method restricts the number and types of drivers and requires them to be permanent residents of scarce CBIOS space, waiting to be needed. Like the other system segments, the IOP structure is supported by a variety of Z-System utilities such as DEVICE and RECORD, which select and activate or deactivate particular drivers. Users with elaborate hardware configurations can benefit most from the optional ZCPR3 IOP design.

Z-System's Languages

One feature of Z-System that has caused me some inconvenience with both ZCPR3 and its predecessor, ZCPR2, is the choice of mnemonics used in its source codes. To develop ZCPR3, Conn and the other designers of Z-System used Z80 assembly-language macro libraries, such as SYS-LIB3, Z3LIB, and VLIB, which were written originally in extended Intel macros rather than "pure" Zilog mnemonics. Presumably, they wanted to make their source code accessible to the widest range of macro assemblers, including Digital Research's MAC and RMAC packages.

Until the past year, the source programs for most Z-System utilities, as well as the libraries themselves, were written only in extended Intel, with its bulky 8080 macros substituting for more compact and readable Z80 instructions. I prefer to code programs in Zilog mnemonics, and it is sometimes difficult to translate extended Intel into Zilog, particularly when the Intel macros have the same names as Zilog instructions. My solution has been to have several different assemblers in different named directories on the same disk. An interactive menu switches back and forth as needed.

Echelon is correcting this problem (if it is a problem for you) in its later software versions and now supplies source code in Zilog mnemonics as well as extended Intel. Zilog mnemonics are becoming more common in Echelon's Z-Tools collection of advanced system development software, much of which is now being sold with Zilog and HD64180 mnemonic patches to permit instant conversions and translations. Judging from recent issues of the Z-News newsletter, the Z-System community is tending to favor the newer 8-bit "superchips" such as the Hitachi HD64180 and the somewhat mythical Zilog Z800, whose instruction sets are upward compatible with Zilog mnemonics.

Advantage of Z80 Code

Z80 optimization of CP/M's 8080 code in the CCP and BDOS is one of the major strengths of Z-System. By using



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more compact Z80 codes for relative and conditional jumps, block transfers, direct loading of double registers, and double-register arithmetic, the Z-System design team have compressed most CCP and BDOS routines tightly enough to add important features. The most common Z80 optimizations in Z-System are the familiar relative and conditional jumps, such as the common substitution of Zilog's DJNZ LOOP for the Intel DEC B-JP NZ,LOOP pair to control loops, a saving of only 2 bytes and either one or four clock cycles on each pass. Much more impressive optimizations are scattered throughout Z-System and its utilities, however.

In the ZRDOS CHECKSUM routine shown in the first part of Table 3, page 46, for example, Dennis Wright (not to be confused with Z-Com developer Joseph Wright) substitutes a single 2-byte, 15-cycle Zilog arithmetic instruction for a cumbersome 10byte, 51-cycle Intel subroutine (SUBDH in the second part of Table 3) to subtract the contents of the DE register pair from those of the HL register pair. Note also how Wright's direct loading of the DREC parameter into registers DE eliminates the Intel XCHG instruction. Wright's Zilog substitutions in this tiny code sample alone save 7 bytes and 32 clock cycles each time they are used.

The powerful Z80 block-compare and -transfer instructions (LDI, LDIR, CPI, and CPIR) are underused in Conn's subroutine libraries and in the Z-System code produced from them. Wright, however, combines LDIR with direct loads of double registers to load the disk parameter block in the ZRDOS SELECTDISK routine with only 11 bytes and 52 clock cycles of code. Digital Research's comparable Intel code requires twice as many bytes and cycles to do the same thing. Wright's use of the Zilog LDIR instruction saves a total of 11 bytes and 46 clock cycles, as you can see by comparing the first and second parts of Table 4, page 46.

The most effective Z-System optimizations have less to do with Z80 features than with sound programming practices. In comparing disassembled source code for BDOS and ZRDOS, I noticed that most of Wright's improvements involved enhanced logic and the elimination of redundancy. By

skillful sequencing of subroutines, he manages to make the flow between calling programs and ZRDOS system calls smoother and more efficient. He uses in-line code in preference to subroutines yet avoids redundancy by elegant relative loops.

The additional space harvested from his thoughtful assembly-language programming allows Wright to add several valuable routines and even four new system calls to ZRDOS. The major alterations in the CP/M 2.2 BDOS eliminate the nagging warmboot requirement each time a disk is changed and make it easier to use the

read-only disk status feature. ZRDOS also permits wheel protection of individual files and file archiving. Two other useful new system calls are included to add a warm-boot trap option so that users can customize error messages by diverting jumps to location 0000H.

Following the release of ZRDOS, several new utilities have appeared that take advantage of these enhancements, and the list is growing. Most Z-System utilities can work just as well under the CP/M BDOS, but newer ones such as AC (archive copy) and VIEW require ZRDOS instead. Echelon ad-

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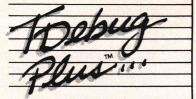
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Excerpt from ZRDOS CHECKSUM routine. Code produces 11 bytes and 60 or 66 clock cycles.

CHECKSUM: LD HL,(DREC) : dir record into HL DE,(CHKSIZ) LD : chksum vector to DE XOR : clear A HL DE SBC ; compare by subtract RET ; result placed in HL ; ret from CHECKSUM if DREC > CHKSIZ

Equivalent excerpt from CP/M 2.2 CHECKSUM routine. Code produces 18 bytes and 92 or 98 clock cycles.

CHECKSUM:

RNC

LHLD DREC ; Dir record into HL.

XCHG ; Shift to DE.

LHLD CHKSIZ ; Checksum vector to HL.

CALL SUBDH – ; Compare by subtract.

; Return from CHECKSUM if ; DREC > CHKSIZ else ; continue with CHECKSUM.

; else continue

SUBDH:

MOV A.E : Must move both bytes SUB ; of directory record into ; register A for double MOV LA MOV A,D ; register subtract with SBB ; carry flag set-diff MOV H,A ; is loaded in HL.

RET ; Return from SUBDH.

Table 3: ZRDOS-BDOS code comparisons. Comments and labels are from my disassembly.

Excerpt from CP/M 2.2 BDOS SELECTDISK routine. Code produces 22 bytes and 98 or 102 clock cycles.

MOVE: ; Necessary in Intel.

INR C ; Set up for loop.

MOVE0:

DEC C ; Get zero if there. RZ ; End loop if empty. LDAX D ; Source byte to A. MOV ; A to destination DPB. M,A D INX : Next source byte INX ; Next destination byte. **JMP** MOVE0 ; Loop until C=0.

SELECTDISK:

; This subroutine fills ; the 16-byte disk parameter block. LHLD DPBADDR : HL points to source. **XCHG** ; Switch source to DE. LXI H,SECTPT : HL=destination DPB. MVI C.DPBLIST ; C=size of DPB. CALL MOVE : Move it. ; SELECTDISK continues.

Equivalent excerpt from ZRDOS SELECTDISK routine. Code produces 11 bytes and 52 or 57 clock cycles.

SELECTDISK:

LD HL,(DPBADDR)

LD DE,SECTPT

CD BC,0FH

CD

Table 4: ZRDOS-BDOS code comparisons

ECHELON'S Z-SYSTEM (continued from page 45)

vertises a more powerful version, ZRDOS3, designed specifically for the Hitachi HD64180 and Zilog Z800 boards. I have not had an opportunity to study ZRDOS3, but Echelon says it adds around 50 new system calls to handle such advanced 8-bit features as multitasking, full-track disk buffering, and routines for addressing larger RAMs.

Documentation

Conn's book ZCPR3: The Manual is the installation bible and technical reference for ZCPR3 and its utilities, particularly if you're installing the manual-install hacker version. Echelon also distributes Z-System User's Guide by Richard Jacobson and Bruce Morgen, which is more appropriate for novice users and others who are content with the Z-Com version. Many other well-written hard-copy manuals on special topics and tools are also available from Echelon.

Z-Com comes with more than 400K of on-line modular help files on all aspects of the system, and each utility has built-in help screens for immediate access. Echelon and Z-Node operators are never stingy with source code. A few proprietary items, such as ZRDOS and some of the Z-Tools, are distributed only in object-code files, but nearly everything else is available in compact assembly-language libraries with professional documentation and helpful programming suggestions.

Conclusions

The major advantages of Z-System are Z80 code optimizations, enhanced transportability, powerful new user options, and compatibility with CP/M 2.2. I've never encountered such elegant and efficient code in any other operating system that I've worked with.

My favorite components are the RAM-resident utilities, internal flow control with nested logic, aliases and multiple commands, named directories, and customized menu shells, but these are just a few of Z-System's advanced features. Combined with fast new Hitachi HD64180 boards, Echelon's ZCPR3 and ZRDOS leave very little to be desired in an 8-bit operating system.

Bibliography

Conn, Richard. *ZCPR3*: *The Libraries*. Los Altos, Calif.: Echelon, 1986. A manual and guide for Z80 system developers using the SYSLIB, Z3LIB, and VLIB Z80 subroutine libraries.

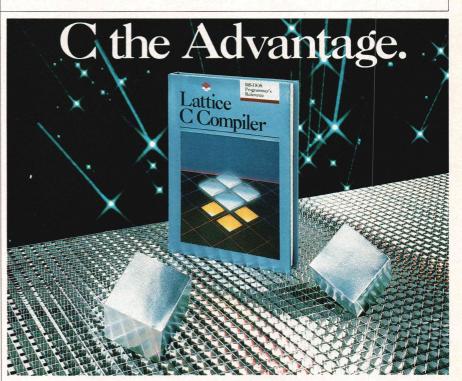
Conn, Richard. *ZCPR3: The Manual*. New York: Zoetrope, 1985. The most comprehensive and technical reference for ZCPR3 and its utilities.

Jacobson, Richard, and Morgen, Bruce. Z-System User's Guide. Los Altos, Calif.: Echelon, 1986. Ideal for beginning Z-System users, especially those with the Z-Com auto-install version.

These books and other Z-System materials are available directly from Echelon. For further information and current prices, write or call Echelon Inc., 885 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos, CA 94022; (415) 948-3820.

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Series 32000 Cross Assembler

he National Semiconductor series 32000 microprocessor line includes the 32-bit 32032 and the 16-bit 32016 (formerly called 16032) microprocessors. As part of a project to build a board using a 32032, I wrote an assembler in Software Toolworks' C/80; adaptation to any other variant of C should be easy.

Although most people lump the 68000 and the 32016 together, these processors are radically different. The differences have been summed up as "the 68000 is PDP-11-like, whereas the 32000 is VAX-like." The 32000 includes bit-field, translate, procedure enter/return, and other high-level instructions in its instruction set.

Basic Program Design

This program works in a brute-force fashion, but it is easy to understand, modify, and debug. Each instruction's binary equivalent is stored in a string, with xs where operands need to be inserted. A string matcher, match(), matches the opcodes against lines in the source file, keeping matches to wildcards in the buffer ambig_buffer. Each opcode has an option character, opopt, associated with it that controls special-case logic for some instructions. The data is output in Intel absolute hex format. Table 1, page 49, shows the definitions for the opopt characters and the instruction table format. Table 2, page 49, shows some examples of instruction formats defined using the structure in Table 1.

The 32000 processor, although allowing absolute addressing, features generalized addressing modes available in almost all instructions. Two'scomplement offsets can be used in

Richard Rodman, 1923 Anderson Rd., Falls Church, VA 22043

by Richard Rodman

The 32000 processor features generalized addressing modes available in almost all instructions.

three different sizes—7, 14, or 30 bits long—as needed. Because these offsets could refer to areas not yet defined, and the length of the code varies with the offset, three passes are necessary. The first pass gets a coarse value of all symbols, the second pass then makes the variable offsets the right length and corrects the symbol values, and the third pass actually generates the code. After the first pass, the symbol table is sorted; then in the second and third passes, a binary search is used to find entries more quickly.

Assembler Syntax

• Symbols—This assembler limits line length to 128 characters; symbols can be up to a whole line long. Labels must be followed by a colon and can not be reused. The colon must be omitted on equates. Values assigned with *equ* can be redefined, however.
• Pseudo-ops—*org* must be followed by a value. Although the 32000 does not require a word alignment of code.

by a value. Although the 32000 does not require word alignment of code or data, it does make some operations faster, so an *even* pseudo-op is provided to force the code address to an even boundary.

Define byte, word, double (db, dw, dd) must be only one value per line. Currently, character-string constants are not supported.

Numeric constants must begin with a digit. Default radix is decimal, or the

value can be followed with an *h*, *q*, or *b* for hexadecimal, octal, or binary, respectively. The code address is known as ".", and the assembly address (which may be different) as "..".

- Opcodes—All 32000 opcodes are supported. The assembly instructions must conform to the *NS16000 Instruction Set Reference Manual*—for example, arguments to the *SAVE* instruction must be enclosed in square brackets. You can include multiple instructions on a line as long as all operands to each instruction are provided.
- Comments—Comments begin with a semicolon (;) and continue to the end of the line. Some programmers have the bad habit of omitting the beginning * or ;. That won't work here. Assembly-time arithmetic—Only "+", "*", "-", and "/" are supported. A look at the listing shows it would be trivial to add more operators, however. Formulas are allowed anywhere a value is required, but they must be enclosed in parentheses. Within parentheses, values must be separated from operators with spaces. This is because the program uses the spaces to tell where words end, and math operators are considered words. Spaces are not needed between the parentheses and the words enclosed. Note the spaces around + and /. An example will best illustrate:

((FEN + 1) + (GUG / 3))

Commas also separate words; in fact, commas and spaces are interchangeable, although human readers may consider commas out of place in some instances.

• Listing—The assembler produces a listing on the final pass. This listing is sent to the screen but can be redirected into a file or to the printer. It is a traditional listing, with address, bytes of code or data, and opcodes and

```
#define MAXOP 149
/* the opcode binary value should be a string of bits e.g. 0111xxxxx000b
the opcode opopt character is used to specify special operands, etc. */
/* opopts used here for the 32000 are:
       blank
                  nothing special
       a
                  gen
      b
                  gen short
       C
                  gen gen
       d
                  00000 short
       е
                  gen gen reg
       f
                  reglist save/enter
                  reglist restore/exit
                  00000 gen (sfsr)
       h
                  inss/exts
                  movs/skps/cmps
                  setcfg
       k
                  procreg, gen for lpr/spr
       1
       m
                  index (operand order)
                  ret/rett - postbyte
       n
                  movm
       0
       p
                  cxp (disp after instruction) */
struct {
                           /* opcode name */
       char *onam;
                           /* operand count, negative if PC-relative */
       int ocnt;
                           /* opcode binary value */
       char *obin;
                           /* opcode opopt char */
       char oopt;
```

Table 1: Definitions of opopt characters

```
-1,
                       "02h",
"bsr",
                                                                            'f',
"save",
             1,
                       "62h".
             0,
"svc",
                       "0e2h",
              -1,
                                                                            'b',
                       "1ah",
"bne".
             2,
"addq?",
                       "xxxxxxxxxx00011iib",
                                                                            'e',
"sgt?",
             1,
                      "xxxxx011001111iib",
                                                                            'a',
                                                                             'a',
                      "xxxxx01001111111b",
"jump",
             1.
                                                                             'a',
                      "xxxxx11001111111b",
"isr",
             1,
                                                                             'c',
                      "xxxxxxxxxx00000010111110b",
"addl",
              2,
                                                                             'c',
                      "xxxxxxxxxx11000110111110b",
"mulf",
             2,
                                                                            'c',
             2,
                       "xxxxxxxxxx1010iib",
"and?",
                       "xxxxxxxxxx1001ii01001110b",
                                                                             'c'.
"not?",
```

Table 2: Selected instruction formats from the opcode table

```
unknown item-syntax error
?
      unimplemented instruction (bad instruction database)
X
      no length modifier (bad instruction database)
      or expression too complex
е
      address extensions missing
      illegal register Ipr/spr
p
      brackets required
      syntax error in value
٧
      unknown arithmetic operator
0
      undefined symbol
```

Table 3: Error messages

comments on the right.

Table 3, below, shows the error messages produced by the assembler.

Future Enhancements

Unless I get some 32000 hardware to play with, it's unlikely I'll work on this program further. If you'd like to work on it, however, some items on your list should be:

- 1. Multivalue db/dw/dd and character-string constants.
- 2. Global/external object format and linker. The 32000 instructions are already relocatable; any absolute values that would be present would presumably be entry points or I/O addresses. In fact, even the global/external isn't really necessary because of the *cxp/rxp* instructions.
- 3. Cseg/dseg pseudo-ops.

If you send your changes to me, I'll be happy to make them available to others. Anyone wanting a copy of the source code may send me \$8 for materials and effort. Please specify 8-inch CP/M, 5¼-inch PC, or other (inquire) or 3½-inch Atari ST.

For those lucky people who are in a position to make use of this program, why not let readers know what you're doing? Is the 32000 really the programmer's dream some say it is? And for those who are in a position to do so, how about some inexpensive 32000 hardware—a singleboard computer perhaps—so people can get a hands-on feel for what the processor can do?

Even if you don't have a 32000 processor to play with, you may be able to make use of routines from this program. The style exemplifies my belief that C should be written to be readable both by computers and by humans. Cryptic C is bad C.

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The listing for this article is presented in a machine-readable form—Softstrips produced by Cauzin Systems. The strips begin on page 83. The text of the listing is available for downloading in the DDJ Electronic Edition on CompuServe. A disk with this listing and others is also available—see the ad on page 115. The text of the listing will be published next month.



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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing One (Text begins on page 16.)

```
/*
Listing 1 Scheduling Algorithm
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*/
  #define _F 0
#define _T 1
#define _E -1
                                                              /* false */
/* true */
/* error */
  #define _NULL 0
  typedef char pointer:    /* pointer type */
typedef char logical;    /* logical type */
typedef unsigned selector: /* 8086 selector type */
                                                              /* register storage block for 8086 interface */
  struct sys parm
      union (unsigned sys_rax; struct (char sys_ral, sys_rah;) sys_byt;) sys_ra; union (unsigned sys_rbx; struct (char sys_rbl, sys_rbh;) sys_byt;) sys_rb; union (unsigned sys_rcx; struct (char sys_rcl, sys_rch;) sys_byt;) sys_rc; union (unsigned sys_rdx; struct (char sys_rdl, sys_rdh;) sys_byt;) sys_rd;
struct t_xstck
                                                             /* application stack base (overflow detection) */
/* es */
/* bb */
/* di */
/* di */
/* dx */
/* ax */
/* ax */
/* ip */
/* cs */
/* b */
/* f */
       unsigned t_xbase;
       unsigned t_xes;
unsigned t_xbp;
unsigned t_xdi;
       unsigned t xsi:
       unsigned t_xdx;
unsigned t_xcx;
       unsigned t xbx;
unsigned t xax;
      unsigned t_xds;
unsigned t_xip;
unsigned t_xcs;
unsigned t_xpf;
unsigned t_retip;
                                                                     return address */
   char t type; /* task type */

define T X 0x80 /* execute queue */

define T W 0x40 /* wait queue */

define T P 0x20 /* priority queue */

define T ATASK 0x01 /* abreviated task */

unsigned t_wttk; /* wait tick count */

unsigned t_cls; /* priority queue linkage */

struct t task *t pqtsk, *t nqtsk, *t nstsk, *t fdtsk, *t_ldtsk; /* family */

struct sys_parm t_ps; /* processor status */

unsigned t xtm0; /* execution time accumulator */

unsigned t xtm1;

unsigned t xtm2;

pointer *t_axstk; /* execution
  struct t task
 char t type;

define T X 0x80

define T W 0x40

define T P 0x20

define T P 0x20

define T ATASK 0x01

unsigned t wttk;

unsigned t wttk;

unsigned t cls;

struct t tak * t pr
  pointer *t_axstk;
                                                              /* execution stack pointer */
  extern pointer *sys_task; /* current task control table pointer */
#define _tsk ( ( struct t_task * ) sys_task ) /* task control table ref */
  #define T_SCLS 4
                                                             /* number of scheduling classes */
  struct t scls
                                                            /* scheduling class queue */
      unsigned t_sfrq;
int t sct;
                                                             /* scheduling frequency */
/* queue length */
```

```
Driver
Fast ANSI Console
```

```
struct t task *t fqtsk, *t_lqtsk; /* queue header */
                                                      /* scheduling control table */
struct t schd
   extern pointer *sys_tsch; /* task scheduling control table pointer */
#define_tschd ( ( struct t_schd * ) sys_tsch ) /* quick pointer */
t_krnl
                                                       /* security kernel */
t_krnl()
This is the security kernel. It never returns, being the most trusted software in the system. The current contents in t_crtss and t_crtsp are used to set the stack for when the current task is resumed. */
   extern logical t_astrm; /* tick termination flag */
extern selector t_crtss; /* current task ss storage */
extern pointer *t_crtsp: /* current task sp storage */
extern unsigned tmr_tkct; /* tick clock */
int xtskct; /* task queue count (at entry) */
int ttc: /* task termination code */
tsk -> t_ps.sys_ss = t_crtss; /* set current task stack */
-tsk -> t_ps.sys_sp = t_crtsp;
While(T) /* find executable task */
        xtskct = tschd -> t_xct; /* save task count */
if ( t_asErm ) t_wtst( tmr_tkct ); /* process wait tasks */
if ( xtskct == 0 ) t_sch(); /* schedule application tasks if necessary */
sys_task = tschd -> T_fxtsk; /* set next task address */
if ( sys_task != _NULL ) /* test for executable task available */
             tschd -> t xct--; /* decrement executing task count */
tschd -> t fxtsk - tsk -> t nqtsk; /* delink task */

If ( tschd -> t fxtsk - NULL;

tschd -> t lxtsk - NULL;
else tschd -> t fxtsk -> t pqtsk - NULL;
tsk -> t type 4 - T X; /* Indicate task not in execution queue */
ttc - t xtsk (sys task); /* execute application task */
if (!eys task) continue: /* test for task terminated */
if (ttc < 0) t inxq(); /* insert task into execution queue */
else if (ttc -= 0) t inpq(); /* insert task into priority queue */
else t inwq(ttc); /* insert into wait queue */
     }
 t_wtst
                                                       test waiting tasks
 t_wtst(tc)
unsigned tc;
 The wait queue is traversed. All tasks with a wait value of tc are executed.
   F is always returned.
     while( T)
                                                        /* traverse wait queue */
         /* return */
      return F;
                                                        schedule task
        sch
   This function searches the priority queues and links tasks ready for execution into the execution queue. The return is always _F. */
      struct t scls **a;  /* priority queue pointer array pointer */
struct t scls *q;  /* priority queue pointer */
int i, j;  /* iteration variables */
a - tschd -> t sclsp; /* set pointer array address */
* whIle(T) /* nonterminating task */
           while(_T)
       1
            for ( i = 0; i < _tschd -> t_sclsl; ++i ) /* traverse queues */
                if ( q -> t_fqtsk -- NULL ) break; /* test for queue empty *
if ( tschd -> t_lxtsk ) /* link to end of execution queue */
   tschd -> t_lxtsk -> t_nqtsk - q -> t_fqtsk;
```

(continued on next page)

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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing One (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
else tschd -> t fxtsk - q -> t fqtsk;

q -> t fqtsk -> t type & -T_P; /* indicate not in priority queue */

q -> t fqtsk -> t pqtsk - t schd -> t lxtsk;

tschd -> t lxtsk - q -> t fqtsk; /* update queue header */

tschd -> t lxtsk -> t nqtsk - NULL;

If (q -> t fqtsk - NULL)

q -> t fqtsk - NULL;

else q -> t fqtsk -> t pqtsk - NULL;

else q -> t fqtsk -> t pqtsk - NULL;

++ tschd -> t xct; /* increment execution queue length */

tschd -> t lxtsk -> t type |= T_X; /* ind. task in execution queue */
/* }
         t_rels();
                                            /* return to bottom of execution gueue */
                                         /* return */
   return F;
t_inxq
                                         insert task into execution queue
t_inxq()
 The current task is inserted into the execution queue. F is always returned.
   tsk -> t wttk = 0; /* indicate not waiting for system tick */
If ( tschd -> t_lxtsk -- NULL ) /* test for execution queue empty */
      _tschd -> t_fxtsk - sys_task; /* insert in empty queue */
_tsk -> t_pqtsk - NULL;
                                         /* execution queue not empty */
       _tschd -> t_lxtsk -> t_nqtsk = sys_task; /* insert at end of queue */_tsk -> t_pqtsk = _tschd -> t_lxtsk;
    t_secw
                                        process secondary wait queue
 t_secw()
 This program executes every 64K system ticks. It moves the secondary wait queue to the primary wait queue and changes the type of the waiting tasks. */
                                         /* task control table pointer */
/* system state flag */
/* nonterminating task */
    struct t task *tsk;
char swtflg;
    while(_T)
       t_syntr(&swtflg); /* enter system state */
for ( tsk = _tschd -> t_fwtsk; tsk; tsk = tsk -> t_nqtsk ) /* traverse */
          tsk -> t_type &= ~T SW; tsk -> t_type |= T_{\overline{W}}; /* change task type */
      inwq
                                        insert task into wait queue
     inwa(tc)
The current task is inserted into the wait queue. to is the number of system ticks that the task is to wait. _F is always returned. */
   extern unsigned tmr_tkct; /* tick clock */
unsigned crtk; /* current tick */
crtk = tmr_tkct; /* set current system tick */
tsk -> t wttk = tc + crtk; /* compute reactivation time */
If ( tsk -> t_wttk >- crtk ) /* test for task in wait queue */
t Invt (& tschd -> t wct); /* insert in wait queue */
tsk -> t_type | - Tw;
else
   inwt
                                        insert into wait or secondary wait queue
struct t_wtq
   t_inwt(w)
struct t_wtq *w;
```

```
The t wtq structure is implicitly contained in the scheduling control table (t schd structure). The current task is inserted into the queue. _F is always returned. */
 struct t task *p;    /* task pointer */
unsigned tc;    /* reactivation time */
tc = tsk -> t_wttk;    /* set reactivation time */
++w -> wct;    /* increment queue length */
for ( p = w -> frs; p; p = p -> t_nqtsk ) /* traverse queue */
    if (tc  t_wttk ) /* test for task earlier */
      if ( (p = w -> lst ) ) /* test for wait queue not empty */
   p -> t_nqtsk = w -> lst = sys_task; /* insert at end of queue */ tsk -> t pqtsk = p;
   tsk -> t_pqtsk = p;

tsk -> t_nqtsk = NULL;
  else
                         /* wait queue empty */
   w -> frs - w -> lst - sys_task; /* initialize wait queue */
_tsk -> t_nqtsk - _tsk -> t_pqtsk - _NULL;
                         /* indicate task inserted */
  return F;
t_inpq
                         insert into priority queue
t_inpq()
The current task is inserted into its priority queue. F is always returned.
 t_xtsk
                          execute task
 struct t task *t;
Task t is executed. The returned value is the termination code.
  /* return */
  return ttc;
t_init
                          initialize task system
t_init()
/*
 . This function initializes the task system. \_F is the normal return. \_E is returned if the system cannot be initialized. */
                                                                  (continued on next page)
```



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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing One (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
if( (sys_tsch = mm_aloc( sizeof( struct t schd ) ) -- NULL )goto errl;
if( (ary = mm_aloc( T SCLS*( sizeof( struct t schs )+2 ) ) )
-- NULL )goto err2;
tsk -> t_pqtsk -- /* NULL linkage */
tsk -> t_ratsk --
tsk -> t_ratsk --
tsk -> t_pstsk --
tsk --
tsk -- t_pstsk --
tsk -- t_pstsk
          t_term
     t_term()
    The task system is terminated. All tasks and storage allocated by t_init are released. The return is always F. */
            extern char *sys_ssbs; /* system stack base */
extern unsigned sys_sssz; /* system stack size */
struct t task *t; /* t task pointer */
char trmflg; /* system state flag storage */
tmr_rst(); /* reset system tick clock */
t_syntr(&trmflg); /* enter system state */
sys_task - sys_ssbs + sys_ssz; /* set original task address */
while((t = tsk -> t_fdtsk)) /* delete all created tasks */
t_del(t, F);
mm_free( tschd -> t_sclsp);
mm_free( sys_tsch);
return_F; /* normal return */
    t crt
                                                                                                                                           create task
  t_crt( xadr, pcnt, padr, ssiz, dsiz, sadr, prty)
pointer *xadr;
  unsigned pcnt;
unsigned *padr;
unsigned *siz, dsiz;
pointer *sadr;
unsigned prty;
  /*
A new task is created with execution priority prty. Execution will begin at xadr. pent parameters will be passed (on the new task stack). The parameters are in an array addressed by padr. The new task will have a stack of ssiz bytes and a dynamic memory area of dsiz bytes. dsiz may be zero to indicate that no dynamic memory is required. sadr will recieve a termination code when the task terminates. If sadr is NULL, an abreviated task is created. F is returned if insufficient memory is available. Otherwise the address of the task table is returned. */
            extern int t halt();
struct t task *tsk;
struct t scls *pq;
struct t xstck *sp;
pointer *ss;
unsigned *pr;
                                                                                                                                         /* return address */
/* task control table pointer (t_task) */
/* priority queue pointer */
/* execution stack pointer */
/* stack start */
/* parameter pointer */
           unsigned *pr; /* parameter pointer */
unsigned ln; /* task control table length */
int i; /* iteration variable */
char *s; /* pointer */
char *sptr; /* execution stack pointer */
logical crtflg; /* system state flag storage */
t_ syntr( &crtflg ); /* enter system state */
ln = sizeof( struct t task ); /* allocate task control table */
if( (tsk = mm aloc( In ) ) -- NULL ) goto err1;
ssiz +- sizeof( struct t_xstck ); /* allocate stack */

(CCC)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            (continued on page 56)
```

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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing One (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
sp -> t xdx =
sp -> t xcx =
     sp -> t xbx =

sp -> t xbx = NULL;

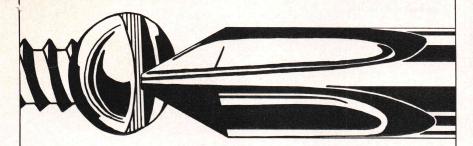
sp -> t xip = xadr;

tsk -> t ps.sys cs =

sp -> t xcs =

tsk -> t ps.sys cs;
tsk -> t ps.sys cs;
tsk -> t ps.sys pf =
sp -> txpf = SYS IF;
tsk -> t retip = 6t halt;
t _syxit( &crtflg ); /* exit system state */
err3: mm free( tsk -> t_ps.sys_ss );
err2: mm_free( tsk );
err1: t _syxit( &crtflg );
return _NULL;
}
     halt
                                                   terminate task
 t_halt()
If a subtask returns into its orginal stack, control will pass to that. This function deletes the subtask and then clears the systask pointer just before returning on the system stack (to reenter the security kernel). */
    t del
                                                   delete task
    del ( tsk, st :
struct t_task *tsk; int st;
Task tsk is killed. st is the status returned to the calling program.
### 64 ( tschd -> t sclsp[ tsk -> t cls ] -> t fqtsk -- tsk ) tschd -> t sclsp[ tsk -> t cls ] -> t fqtsk -- tsk ) tschd -> t sclsp[ tsk -> t cls ] -> t fqtsk -- tsk -> t nqtsk; else if[ (tsk -> t type&T W) && [ tschd -> t fwtsk -- tsk ) ] tschd -> t fwtsk -- tsk -> t nqtsk; else if[ (tsk -> t type&T SW ] && (tschd -> t fswtsk -- tsk ) ) tschd -> t fswtsk -- tsk -> t nqtsk; else if( (tsk -> t type&T SW ] && (tschd -> t fxtsk -- tsk ) ) tschd -> t fxtsk -- tsk -> t nqtsk; (contin
                                                                                                                              (continued on page 58)
```

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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing One (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
mm_aloc
                                                   memory allocation
mm_aloc(ln)
unsigned ln;
In bytes are allocated from the heap. The address of the first byte is returned. If there is not enough available memory to satisfy the request, _NULL is returned. */
    return malloc(ln):
                                                 /* allocate storage */
mm_free
                                                   memory deallocation
mm free (st)
st is the address returned by a previous call to function mm free. The storage previously allocated is made available for future use. The normal return is F. E is returned if st does not point to an area previously allocated by mm_aloc. */
    return free(st);
                                                   /* deallocate storage */
main
*/
                                                   test program
main()
This function serves to test the task scheduler. Two tasks are created, each of which increments a variable. The original task continually displays the counts, as well as its own iteration number. Depressing any key will cause a return to MS-DOS. */
   int ctr1, ctr2, ctr3; /* counters */
int count(); /* counting subroutine */
int param[ 2 ]; /* parameter array */
printf("tasktest (C) 1986 Ken Berry- All Rights Reserved\n");
printf("Tele task scheduler: 1986 September 2 version (DDJ mod)\n\n");
t init(); /* initialize task scheduler */
ctr1 - ctr2 - ctr3 - 0; /* initialize counters */
param[ 0 ] - &ctr1; /* create first task */
param[ 1 ] - 1;
t crt( count, 2, &param, 256, 0, 0, 0);
param[ 0 ] - &ctr2; /* create second task */
param[ 1 ] - 2;
t_crt( count, 2, &param, 256, 0, 0, 0);
     while( !kbhit() ) /* loop until key depressed */
        getch();
                                                   /* discard termination character */
/* terminate task scheduler */
/* return to MS^DOS */
           term();
    return F;
count(ctr,inc)
int *ctr,inc;
    while( T)
                                                   /* infinite loop */
         *ctr += inc;
                                                   /* update counter */
```

End Listing One

Listing Two

```
Listing 2- System Definitions
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sys_parm struc
rax dw ?
                                                 ;; register storage block
                   dw ?
                                                ;; ax (general register A)
;; bx (general register B)
;; cx (general register C)
rbx
rcx
                   dw ?
                   dw ?
dw ?
rdx
                                                ;; dx (general register D)
                                                ;; bp (base pointer)
;; si (source index)
;; di (destination index)
                   dw ?
rdi
```

```
;; sp (stack pointer)
rsp
rcs
rds
                                                    ;; cs (code segment)
;; ds (data segment)
;; ss (stack segment)
;; es (extra segment)
rss
res
                                                     ;; pf (processor flags)
;; sw (status word)
;; ip (instruction pointer)
sys_parm
                     ends
                                                     ;; task control table
t_type
t_wttk
t_cls
                     db ?
dw ?
dw ?
                                                     ;; task type
;; wait tick count
                           ;; wait tick count
;; priority queue index
;; prior t task pointer
;; next t Task pointer
;; next t task pointer
;; prior sibling t task pointer
;; prior sibling t task pointer
;; prior sibling t task pointer
;; first desendant t task pointer
;; first desendant t Task pointer
type sys_parm dup (?);; processor status
;; * execution time accumulator
;; *
t_pqtsk
t_nqtsk
t_ratsk
t_pstsk
t_nstsk
t_fdtsk
                   2 dw 2 dw 2 db t
t_ldtsk
t_ps
t xtm0
                     dw ?
dw ?
                                                    ;; *
 t_xtml
 t xtm2
                      dw ?
                                                     ;; application stack pointer
 t_axstk
                      dw ?
 ttask
                      ends
                                                     ;; abreviated task
;; execute wueue
 T_ATSK
                      equ 01h
T_X
T_W
T_P
                      equ 80h
equ 40h
equ 20h
                                                     ;; wait queue
;; priority queue
;; secondary wait queue
 t SW
                      equ 10h
                                                     ;; scheduling class queue
                      struc
t_scls
t_sfrq
t_sct
t_fqtsk
t_lqtsk
t_scls
                                                     ;; scheduling frequency
;; queue length
;; first task in queue
                      dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
                                                      :: last task in queue
                      ends
                                                     ;; scheduling control table
;; execution queue length
;; first task in execution queue
;; last task in execution queue
;; wait queue length
;; first task in wait queue
;; last task in wait queue
;; secondary wait queue length
;; first task in secondary wait queue
;; last task in secondary wait queue
;; last task in secondary wait queue
;; scheduling class index limit
;; scheduling class array pointer
 t_xct
t_fxtsk
t_lxtsk
                      dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
 t_wct
t_fwtsk
t_lwtsk
                      dw ?
 t_swct
t_fswtsk
                      dw ?
                      dw ?
  tlswtsk
 t_sclsl
t_sclsp
  t schd
                      ends
  t calln
                      struc
                                                      ;; near function call
 t_nbp
t_nret
                      dw ?
                                                      ;; base pointer storage
;; return address
  t_np0
t_np1
                       dw ?
                                                      :: parameter 0
                      dw ?
dw ?
  t_np2
t_np3
t_np4
                                                      :: parameter
                      dw ?
dw ?
                                                       :: parameter
  t_np5
t_np6
                      dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
                                                      ;; parameter
                                                      :: parameter
                                                       ;; execution stack
  t_xtsk
t_xbase
                       struc
                       dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
                                                            base (for stack overflow detection)
  t_xes
t_xbp
t_xdi
                                                       ;; bp
;; di
;; si
   t_xsi
t_xdx
                             ?
                                                       ;; dx
   t xcx
   t_xbx
t_xax
                                                       ;; bx
                                                             ax
                        dw ?
dw ?
dw ?
   t_xds
t_xip
                                                       ;; ip
   t_xcs
t_xpf
t_retip
                                                       ;; return ip
   t_xtsk
                        ends
                                                        ;; near return
                       macro s
       ifnb <s>
                                                        ;; pop ip & adjust sp
;; * adjustment value
                        db high s
       else
                        db 0C3h
                                                        ;; pop ip only
       endif
                        endm
                                                        ;; far return
                        macro s
       ifnb <s>
                                                        ;; pop ip, cs & adjust sp
;; * adjustment value
                        db Occh
                        db high s
                                                       ;; *
                        db low s
       else
                        db OCBh
                                                        ;; pop ip, cs only
       endif
                         endm
                         macro reg,flag
xchg reg,flag ;; capture token
endm
   ilck
    iowait
                         macro
                                                         ;; I/O delay
                         nop
```

(continued on next page)

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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Two (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
sys_entr macrolia,
ifnder sys_ilck
extrn sys_ilck:byte
                                      ;; enter system function
               mov al, OFFh ;; ** system task interlock ilck al, sys_ilck ;; ** mov flag, al ;; save accepted.
sys_exit macro flag ;; exit from system function
    local exit1,exit2
    ifndef sys_ilck
               extrn sys_ilck:byte
   ifndef t astrm
                extrn t_astrm:byte
   ifndef t_term extrn t_term:near
   endif
                test byte ptr t_astrm, OFFh ;; * test for application terminated jnz exit1 ;; *
                mov byte ptr sys ilck,0;; exit system state jmp short exit2;; continue application task test flag,0FFH;; ** test for more stacked system tasks jnz exit2; **
exit1:
                                      ;; terminate application task ;; macro exit
exit2:
                endm
sys sync macro ifndef t sync extrn t sync:near
                                      ;; synchronize system resource
                                      ;; set flag offset
;; suspend task until token obtained
                lea bx, flag
               call t_sync
sys_sstk macro local sstk1
                                      ;; conditionally establish system stack
   ifndef t
                extrn t sstk:near
   endif
                or al.al
                                       ;; * test for system task interrupted
               jnz sstk1
call t_sstk
push ds
                                      ;; establish system stack
;; ** set es - ds
;; **
sstk1:
                pop es
endm
sys sctx macro
                                      ;; save processor context
               push bx
push cx
                                      ;; protect bx
;; protect cx
               push dx
push si
                                      ;; protect dx
;; protect si
               push si
push di
                                       ;; protect di
               push bp
                                          protect bp
                                      ;; protect es
;; clear direction flag
;; conditionally establish system stack
                cld
sys_rctx macro
                                      ;; restore processor context (except ds) 
;; restore es 
;; restore bp 
;; restore di
               pop es
pop bp
pop di
               pop si
pop dx
                                      :: restore dx
               pop cx
                                       ;; restore cx
                                      ;; restore bx
               pop ax
                                      :: restore ax
sys rctx macro
                                      ;; restore processor context
;; restore context (except ds)
               pop ds
                                      ;; restore ds
sys ient macro flag
               push ds
                                      ;; protect ds
                                      ;; protect as
;; * establish data addressability
;; *
               push ax
               mov ax, dgroup
mov ds, ax
               mov ds,ax ;; -
sys_entr flag ;; enter system state
sti ;; interrupts on
               sys sctx
                                      ;; save processor context
               endm
sys_iret macro flag
local iret1
  ifndef t_astrm
extrn t_astrm:byte
   endif
               cli :; interrupts off
test byte ptr t astrm, OFFh ;; * test for application not terminated
jz iret1 ;; **
test flag, OFFh ;; ** test for system state interrupted
jnz iret1 ;; **
               sti
                                      ;; interrupts on
;; return to task management
                retn
iret1:
                                      ;; restore processor conte
;; resume interrupted task
                sys_rctx
iret
dsea
               macro
dgroup
data
               group data
                segment word public 'data'
```

```
assume ds:dgroup,es:dgroup,ss:dgroup
endm

endds macro
data ends
endm

pseg macro
pgroup
prog group prog
segment byte public 'prog'
assume cs:pgroup
endm

endps macro
prog ends
ends
ends
ends
ends
ends
endm
```

End Listing Two

Listing Three

```
Scheduling Algorithm (Assembly Subroutines)
Listing 3
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                      include tele.mac ; system definitions (listing 2)
                       extrn t astrm:byte; application task termination flag
                       extrn t rtmark:near; update pseudo time accumulator extrn t krnl:near; security kernel
                      public sys task; current task pointer
public sys tsch; task scheduling table pointer
public sys silck; system task interlock
public sys asbs; application stack base
public sys system; system stack base
public sys ssbs; system stack base
public sys ssss; system stack size
                      public sys ssss; system stack size
public sys sstp; system stack size
public sys stp; system stack top
public sys stt; original register block
public t mnxtm; minimum execution time
public t rels; release
public t syxtm; system pseudo time accumulator
public t term; reschedule
public t wait; wait
public t wait; wait
public t wait; wait
public t crtss; current task ss storage
public t crtss; current task sp storage
public t dspap; dispatch application
public t dspsy; dispatch system
public t sstk; establish system stack
public t syxtr; enter system state
public t syxir; enter system state
                       equ 500
equ 1024
                                                          : minimum execution time
 MINYTM
                                                           ; system stack size
                        dseg
 tmrdx
                        dw 0
                                                         : dx storage
  spdss
                        dw 0
                                                         : sp storage
  spdsp
                                                         ; current task ss storage
; current task sp storage
 t_crtss
t_crtsp
                       dw 0
                       dw 0
 sys_stat
sys_dgrp
sys_task
sys_tsch
sys_asbs
                       db type sys_parm dup (0); original register block
                                                         rm dup (0) ; original register b:
; data segment storage
; current task pointer
; task scheduling table pointer
; application stack base
; system stack base
; system stack length
; system stack top
; system task interlock
                        dw 0
dw stkbs
  sys_ssbs
sys_sssz
                        dw STKLN
dw STKLN
  sys_sstp
sys_ilck
                        db OFFh
                                                          ; wait queue update task pointer
                       dw 0
  t wqupd
                       dw 3 dup (0) ; system pseudo time accumulator
  t syxtm
                                                          ; minimum execution time
  t mnxtm
                       dw MINXTM
                        db STKLN dup (0) ; system stack
db type t_task dup (0) ; main task control table
  comment ~
         dspap (ss.sp)
  selector ss;
unsigned sp;
   ss and sp are placed in the stack registers. Then the other registers are restored from the new stack. Control passes to the restored task. The return address is left at the top of the system stack. Therefore the restored task
   may use the system stack to return to the caller of t_dspap. ax may contain a return code in this case.
   t_dspap proc near
push bp ; protect bp
mov bp,sp ; establish parameter addressability
mov ax,[bp].t_np0 ; set application stack
mov bx,[bp].t_np1
```

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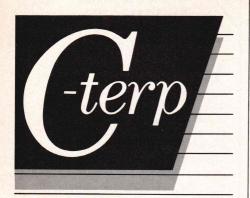
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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Three (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
mov sys_sstp,sp; store current top of system stack
cli
mov ss,ax
mov sp,bx
mov bp,sp; enable interrupts
or [bp].t_xpf,0200h
pop sys_asbs
sti
sys_rctx; restore context
cli___; interrupts off
mov byte ptr sys_ilck,0; exit system state
mov byte ptr t_astrm,0; initialize application interval
pop ds; restore ds
iret ; execute task
t_dspap endp

comment ~

t_term()    F
t_spnd(tp)    tp
t_wait(tp)    tp
unsigned tp;
t_rels()    E
```

All of these functions are similar. The processor registers are stored on the stack, which is then adjusted to match the pattern for interrupt returns. Finally the system stack is established. The functions differ in the code returned to the caller of function t_dspap. t_dspap restores the registers and returns control to the caller of these functions. The returned value is shown with the appropriate call above. tp is only used with t spnd and t_wait. It is the number of system ticks to wait before executing the task again. t_wait functions like t_spnd, except that t_rels is invoked immediately. ~

```
t term
                 proc near call t trmap
                                        ; protect registers
                 xor ax, ax
                                          ; return F
t term
                 endp
t spnd
                 proc near
                mov spdss,ss ; store stack point mov spdsp,sp call t_trmap ; protect registers mov es,spdss ; return tick count mov si,spdsp
                                        ; store stack pointers
                 mov si, spdsp
mov ax, word ptr es:[si+2]
set es = ds
                 pop es
                                          ; return
t spnd
t_wait
                push bp ; protect bp
mov bp,sp ; establish stack addressability
mov ax,[bp].t_np0 ; suspend task
                push ax call t_spnd mov sp, bp
                                          ; unload stack
                mov spropp
pop bp
proc near
call t_trmap ; protect registers
return _E
                 ret
t_rels
t_wait
                 endp
                 endp
comment
t dspsy()
```

A call to function t_trmap is made so that after the registers are stored in the application stack (and the system stack is made current), control passes to function t_krnl, the system security kernel. Control will return from t_dspsy when the calling task is resumed. Nothing is returned.

```
t_dspsy proc near mov ax,offset pgroup:t_krnl ; branch to system push ax sub sys_sstp,2 ; adjust system stack (for "pop bp" in t_sstk)
```

comment ~

The machine registers are stored on the application stack. Then the system stack is made current. The return address from the call to t_trmap is put on the system stack before returning to it. Nothing is returned.

t trmap proc near mov byte ptr sys ilck, OFFh ; force system state mov tmrdx, dx ; save dx pop dx set return address (from t_trmap) push cs pushf protect cs protect flags push ds protect ds push ax push bx protect ax protect bx push cx protect cx protect dx protect si protect di push tmrdx push si push di push bp protect bp

(continued on page 64)



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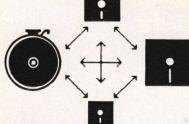
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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Three (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
push es ; protect es push dx ; restore return address to stack mov bp,sp ; establish stack addressability mov ax,[bp].txip; adjust stack for interrupt return xchg ax,[bp].txpf mov [bp].txip,ax
```

comment -

t sstk()

The current application stack pointers are stored. Then the system stack is established as the current stack. The return address from the call is placed on the system stack before returning into it. Nothing is returned.

```
t_sstk proc near pop dx push sys_asbs push sys_asbs protect stack protection reference mov bx,ss set application stack registers mov ax,sys_ssbs; set system stack cli mov sys_asbs,ax push ds pop ss mov sp,sys_sstp sti pop bp push dx; restore bp mov t_crtss,bx; store current ss mov t_crtsp,cx; store current bp push dx ret t_sstk endp t_dspsy endp comment ~
```

A wait loop will be entered until the required resource is available. This is indicated by flg containing 0x00. 0xFF is stored to prevent any other tasks from acquiring the resource. The resource is released by resetting flg to 0x00.

```
t_sync proc near
push bp ; protect bp
mov bp,sp ; establish stack addressability
mov bx,[bp].t_np0 ; set pointer to resource flag

syncl: mov al,0FFh ; interlock token
ilck al,<byte ptr [bx]>
or al,al
jz sync2
xor ax,ax
inc ax
push ax
call t_spnd
mov sp,bp
jmp syncl ; continue

sync2: pop bp
call t_rels ; release task
```

ret ; retu t_sync endp

comment ~

t_sync(flg) char *flg;

t_syntr(flg)
char *flg;

This function expands the sys_entr macro for use by c functions.

```
t_syntr proc near push bp ; protect bp mov bp,sp ; establish stack addressability mov bx,[bp].t_np0 ; set flag address sys_entr <br/>
sys_entr <br/>
pop bp ; restore bp ret ; return endp
```

comment ~

t_syxit(flg)
char *flg;

This function expands the sys_exit macro for use by c functions.

> endps end

End Listing Three (Listing Four begins on page 66)

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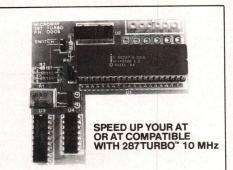
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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Four (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
Listing 4 High Resolution Clock
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                                       include tele.mac ; system defintions (listing 2)
                                      extrn t_syxtm:word ; system execution time accumulator
extrn sys_dgrp:word ; data segment storage
extrn sys_stat:word ; original register block
                                     public t_tick ; system tick interrupt service
public t_astrm ; application task termination flag
public tmr dspl ; physical display pointer
public tmr idex ; timer period
public tmr ilek ; tick service reentrant interlock
public tmr sync ; synchronization function address
public tmr_stm ; tick clock
public tmr_tkm ; tick service execution time
public tmr_clr ; reset time base generation
public tmr_int ; timer intialization function
public tmr_int ; timer termination function
public tmr_sts ; read timer status
public tmr_tr ; restart hardware timer
                                                                             tick ; system tick interrupt service
                                     public tmr_sts; read timer status
public tmr_tmr; restart hardware timer
public trdclk; read high resolution clock
public trtactg; psuedo tlme accumulator pointer
public trtmark; mark execution interval
public t_rdclk; read real time clock
public td_rdf; clock update tick reference count
public td_tct; clock tick timer
public td_set; set time of day clock
public td_upd; update time of day clock
public tw_cdspl; physical display update function
public w_sync; physical display synchronization
                                       equ 80h
                                                                                                ; relocated alternate time base interrupt
                                                                                              ; relocated alternate time base int; hardware timer interrupt; tlmer (8253) port; timer period (60 Hz rate); timer period (120 Hz rate); interrupt controller (8259) port; hardware timer interrupt mask; interrupt termination value; 60 Hz interrupt rate; 120 Hz interrupt rate; tmr_idv0 divisor; tmr_ict correction value; tmr_idv1 correction value; tmr_idv2 correction value; tmr_idv2 correction value;
                                      equ 80h
equ 8
equ 40h
equ 19912
equ 9956
equ 20h
equ 01h
equ 20h
 TMRINT
 TMRPRD
   . TMRPRD
 TMRMSK
INTEOI
DSPCT
                                       equ 1
equ 2
equ 3
equ 776
  ; DSPCT
  IDV0
  ISKPO
  ISKP1
  ISKP2
                                        dseg
tmr_tkct
tmr_dct
tmr_ict
tmr_dvsr
t_astrm
                                       dw 0
db 0
                                                                                                        interrupt counter
                                                                                                ; interrupt counter; display counter; tick clock (for time base generation); 1/2 timer period; application task termination flag; system state flag (t tick); tick service reentrant interlock; clock time base generator; primary alternate time base generator.
                                        dw 0
                                       dw TMRPRD
db OFFh
tmrflg
tmr_ilck
tmr_idv0
tmr_idv1
tmr_idv2
                                        db OFFh
                                       db 0
                                       db
                                                 0 ; primary alternate time base generator
0 ; secondary alternate time base generator
0 ; console display w_pwdw pointer
0 ; psuedo time accumulator pointer
0 ; real time reference count
0 ; tick clock phase
3 dup (0) ; tick service psuedo time accumulator
0 ; prior psuedo time accumulator pointer
offset pgroup:w_sync; synchronization function pointer
0 ; clock update tick reference count
0 ; clock tick timer
 tmr_dspl
t_rtactg
t_rtrfct
                                       dw
                                        dw 0
 t_rttick
tmr_xtm
                                       dw 0
dw 3 dup (0)
dw 0
tmrpxtm
tmr_sync
td_ref
                                        dw 0
                                       endds
                                      pseq
 comment ~
  t_tick
                                                                                                system tick service
 t tick\\
Control only comes here in response to an interrupt from the system clock. This function serves three purposes. It maintains the system clock, which provides the current date and time for both system and application uses. It also performs an update of the first physical display. And finally it terminates the execution interval for the current application task.
        tick proc far
; reentrant lockout
                                      assume ss:nothing,ds:nothing,es:nothing
sti ; interrupts on
push ds ; protect ds
                                     push ds ; protect ds
push ax ; protect ax
mov ax,dgroup ; establish data addressability
mov ds,ax
assume ds:dgroup
mov al,INTEOI ; terminate interrupt
out INTPRT,al
ilck al,tmr_ilck ; test for not reentrant call
or al,al
jz tick
                                     pop ax
                                                                                              ; restore ax
```

(continued on page 74)

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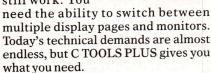
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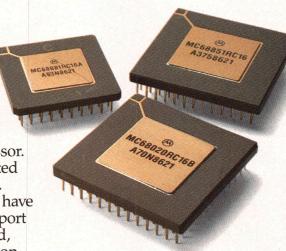
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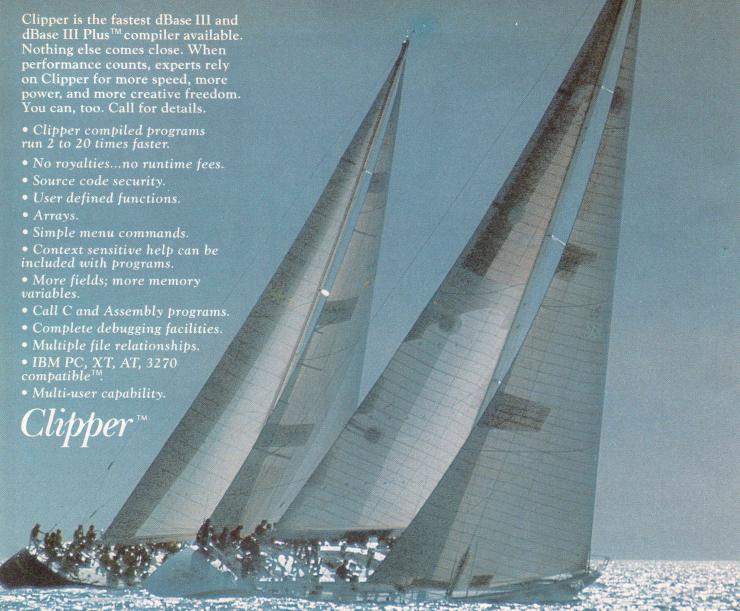
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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Four (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
pop ds
iret
                                           ; restore ds
; return from interrupt
 ; system interlock
                 mov t_astrm,OFFh ; terminate application task
sys_entr tmrflg ; enter system state
 ; set machine environment
                 sys sctx ; save processor context push bp ; protect bp mov bp.sp ; mark stack location lea ax.tmr_xtm ; accumulate psuedo time push ax call t_rtmark mov sp.bp mov tmrpxtm,ax ; store prior pointer
; real time system processing
                 inc tmr_dct
mov al, DSPCT
xor al, tmr_dct
jnz tick4
                                       ; remove display harmonics
                  mov tmr dct, al
                 mov thm dct, al push thm dspl ; display physical window call w_cdspl ; restore stack pointer inc thm ict ; increment interrupt counter inc thm tkct ; increment tick clock
 ; time base generation
                 mov ax,ISKPO ; long term time base correction xor ax,tmr_ict
jnz tickl
                 mov tmr ict, ax call tick5
                 call tick5 ; update system tick clock inc tmr idv0 mov al IDv0 ; generate clock time base
tick1:
                 xor al,tmr_idv0
jnz tick3
mov tmr_idv0,al
call tick5
                 call tick5 ; update system tick clock inc tmr idv1 ; primary alternate time base correction mov al TSKP1
                 mov al, ISAPI
xor al, tmr idv1
jnz tick2
mov tmr idv1, al
int RLCTNT ; update alternate time base
inc tmr idv2 ; secondary alternate time base correction
mov al, ISAPI
                  xor al, tmr_idv2
jnz tick2
                  mov tmr idv2, al int RLCINT
                                      ; update alternate time base
; update alternate time base
                 int RLCINT
 ; terminate interrupt service
                 xor ax,ax ; terminate task mov tmr_ilck,al ; enable reentrance
                                          ; near return to system task management
tick4:
                 sys_rctx
                  pop ds
iret
                                          ; restore ds
                                           ; return to interrupted task
; update system tick counter
tick5:
                 mov ax,td_tct ; test for no overflow
                 inc ax
cmp ax,td_ref
jne tick6
                 call td_upd
xor ax,ax
mov td_ref,ax
mov td_tct,ax
inc td_tct
                                        ; update clock
; reset tick counter
                                          ; increment tick counter
t_tick
comment ~
                                         initialize timer
tmr_int()
All data areas necessary for clock maintenance are initialized. The hardware timer is programmed for the appropriate rate and its interrupt vector is made to point to sys_tmr. The original vector is relocated and will be used by sys_tmr as the alternate time base.
```

(continued on page 76)

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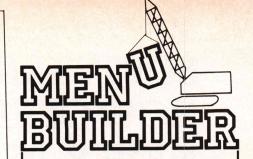
INTERNATIONAL

MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Four (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
mov ax,dgroup ; set data segment
mov sys_dgrp,ax
mov ax,cs ; set code segment
lea si,sys_stat
mov [si].rcs,ax
               cli ; interrupts off
mov tmr_ilck,0FFh; lockout·t_tick
mov bx,tmr_sync; test for no synchronization function
test bx,bx
                iz into
               lea bx,tmr_sync ; synchronize timer interrupt call [bx]
               call trick; continue
call trick; start timer
call trick; set real time clock phase
int1:
               mov t rttick, ax mov t rtrfct, ax
                                        ; set reference count
               mov trtactg, offset dgroup:t syxtm ; initialize time accumulator call td_set ; set current time sti __; interrupts on
               xor ax, ax
push ds
mov ds, ax
mov di, ax
                                      ; form 0
                                      : relocate original interrupt vector
               mov ax,[di+4*TMRINT]
mov [di+4*RLCINT],ax
mov ax,[di+4*TMRINT+2]
mov [di+4*RLCINT+2],ax
mov ax,offset pgroup:t_tick; set interrupt service
mov [di+4*TMRINT],ax
               mov [di+4*TMRINT+2], ax
                                     ; interrupts on ; restore ds
               sti
               pop ds
               call tmr_eni ; enable interrupts ret ; return
tmr_int
               endp
comment ~
tmr_clr
                                      reset time base generation
tmr clr()
The time base adjustment variables are reset. This function is to be called by td_set when the time of day is initially set from a continuous clock. Nothing
is returned.
tmr clr proc near
               xor ax, ax
mov tmr idv0, al
mov tmr idv1, al
mov tmr idv2, al
                                       ; zero time base generation variables
                                      : return
tmr clr endp
comment ~
tmr_rst
                                      reset timer
tmr rst()
The original interrupt service routine is restored and the hardware clock is reprogrammed. However, the original hardware values are not available in this edition. Therefore the original system state cannot always be restored.
               ; protect ds
; restore original interrupt vector
               your ax, ax ; restore original interrumov ds, ax call tmr_dsi ; disable timer interrupt
                                         interrupts off
               mov ax, [di+4*RLCINT]
               mov [di+4*TMRINT], ax
mov ax, [di+4*RLCINT+2]
mov [di+4*TMRINT+2], ax
                                    ; restore ds
; restart hardware timer
               pop ds
xor bx,bx
               call tmr_str
               sti ; interrupts on call tmr_eni ; enable timer interrupt
               ret
                                      ; return
tmr rst
               endp
comment ~
tmr_tmr
                                      restart hardware timer
tmr tmr//
Channel 0 of an 8253 timer is initialized to mode 3. The count in bx is then
programmed.
              tmr_tmr proc near
               out TMRPRT, al
               mov al, 36h
iowait
                                      ; initialize 8253 (mode 3, both bytes)
```

```
out TMRPRT+3, al
             mov al,bl
iowait
out TMRPRT,al
            mov al, bh
iowait
out TMRPRT, al
                                 : return
tmr_str
tmr_tmr
             endp
comment ~
                                 read timer status
tmr_sts
The returned value is the current count in the timer.
             proc near ; read timer status mov al,00h ; set read mode out TMRPRT+3,al
              nop ; allow timer chip to recover in al, TMRPRT ; read count
              mov ah, al
in al, TMRPRT
xchg ah, al
ret
tmr sts endp
                                 : return
comment
                                 disable interrupt
tmr_dsi
The timer interrupt is disabled at the 8259 interrupt controller.
             proc near
              cli ; interrupts off
in al,INTPRT+1 ; disable timer interrupt
              or al, TMRMSK
              iowait
              out INTPRT+1, al
                                  ; interrupts on
                                  : return
 tmr_dsi endp
 comment ~
                                  enable interrupt
 tmr_eni
 tmr_eni()
 The timer interrupt is enabled at the 8259 interrupt controller.
 tmr eni
              proc near
                                  ; interrupts off
               c11
               in al, INTPRT+1; ; enable timer interrupt and al, not TMRMSK
               lowait
               out INTPRT+1, al
                                   ; interrupts on
               sti
                                   : return
 tmr eni
                                  read real time clock
  t_rdclk
  t rdclk()
  The current value of the real time clock is read and returned.
                                   ; refresh address DMA register
  DMAREG
               equ 0
              proc near
mov dx,DMAREG ; set DMA register address
call t rdclk ; read time
call t rdclk ; read time again
cmp ah,bh
jne rdclk0 ; test for interruption
                                   : return
  t_rdclk
               endp
               proc near
  t rdclk
                                   : interrupts off
                cli
               in al, dx
mov ah, al
                                    ; read time
                iowait
in al,dx
                xchg al, ah sti
                                    ; interrupts on
  t_rdclk endp
   comment -
                                   mark execution interval
   t_rtmark
  t_rtmark(np)
pointer *np;
   The number of refreshes since the last call to t_rtmark is accumulated. Then the reference count is reset. np points to the area that will accumulate the
   number of refreshes to the next call. The returned value is the original accumulator pointer.
   t_rtmark proc near push bp
                                    ; protect bp
; establish parameter addressability
                mov bp, sp
```



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(continued on page 80)

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MULTITASKING KERNEL

Listing Four (Listing continued, text begins on page 16.)

```
dsi ; disable timer interrupt
Elk ; read real time clock
               call tmr_dsicall t_rdclk
               mov bx,ax ; protect current count xchg bx,t rtrfct ; update reference count sub ax,bx ; compute execution interval inc mark1 ; test for no overflow
               neg ax ; adjust count
mov bx,t rtactg; accumulate execution time
               add ax, [bx]
mov [bx], ax
jnc markxit
               add word ptr [bx+2],1
jnc markxit
inc word ptr [bx+4]
               mov ax,bx ; return orginal pointer
mov bx,[bp].t np0 ; set new accumulator pointer
mov tractg,bx
call tmr_eni ; enable timer interrupt
markxit:
               pop bp
                                      ; restore bp
                                      : return
t rtmark endp
comment ~
w_cdspl
                                      display physical buffer
    cdspl (pw)
struct w_phys *pw;
Physical window pw is displayed. This function is called by the system tick clock interrupt service function. Nothing is returned.
w_cdspl proc near
                                      ; return
w cdspl endp
comment ~
w_sync
                                      synchronize interrupt to display
w sync()
The system tick clock timer is adjusted so that \mathbf{w}_{-} dsply executes just prior to the vertical blanking interval. Nothing is returned.
               proc near call tmr_tmr ; start timer
w sync
w_sync endp
comment -
td_set
                                       set time of day clock
td set()
The clock is set to the current time. Nothing is returned.
td set
               proc near
                                      ; return
td_set
               endp
td upd
                                      update clock
td upd()
The clock is updated based on the number of ticks since it was last updated. The normal return (ax) is _F. _E is returned if the call was locked out.
               proc near
td upd
                                      ; return
td_upd
               endp
               endps
```

End Listings

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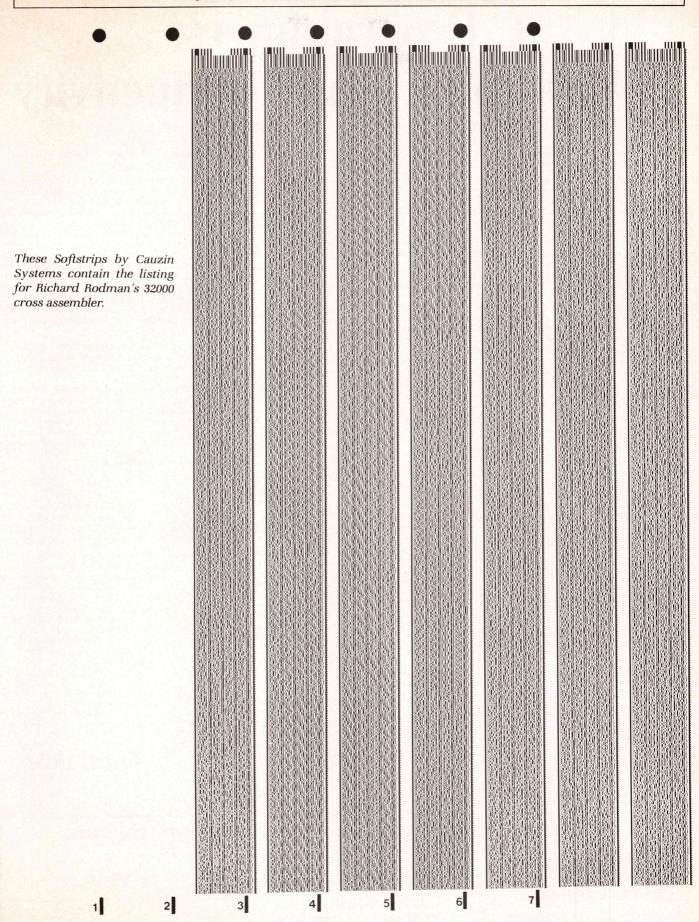
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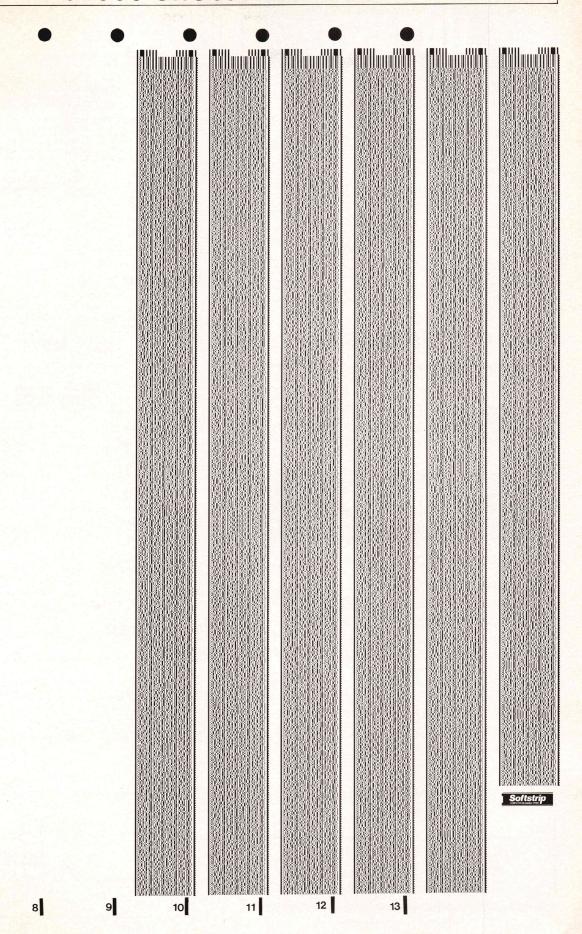
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16-BIT

Listing One (Text begins on page 104.)

```
General string comparison routine for 8086
by Ray Duncan, June 1986
                              DS:SI = address of string1
DX = length of string1
ES:DI = address of string2
BX = length of string2
   Call with:
                                Z and S flags set appropriately:
Z = True if strings are equal
                                or
2
                                           - False if strings are not equal, and
- True if string1 < string2
- False if string1 > string2
                                                                                ; set length to compare ; use shorter of two lengths
                amo
                                dx, bx
                                scmp1
cx,dx
                ta
                                                                                ; now compare strings
; jump, strings equal so far
; return, strings not equal, Z=False
; compare original string lengths
; return with S and Z flags set
sampl:
                repz cmpsb
                                samp2
samp2:
                                dx.bx
stromo endo
                                                                                                              End Listing One
```

Listing Two

```
Listing Two
 General string comparison routine for 68000 by Rick Wilton, June 1986
  Call with:
                              - address of string1

length of string1
address of string2
length of string2

                             - flag (-1,0,1)

-1 if string1 < string2

0 if string1 = string2

1 if string1 > string2
 Returns:
                     D3
stromp
                                                       ; set d2 = shorter length
; d2 := length2
           move.b d1.d2
           amp.b
blt.s
                                                       : branch if length2 < length1
                      strampl
           move.b d0,d2
                                                       ; d2 := length1
stromp1 subq.w #1,d2
           bmi.s
                                                       : branch if string length-0
stramp2 ampm.b (a0)+, (a1)+
dbne d2, stramp2
                                                       : compare strings
           bne.s
                      stramp4
                                                       ; branch if strings unequal
stramp3 amp.b
bne.s
                      d0.d1
                      stromp4
40,d3
                                                       ; branch if lengths unequal
; string1 = string2, return 0
           moveq
stramp4 bmi.s
                      stramp5
                                                       ; branch if d1 < d0
; string1 < string2, return -1</pre>
           moveq
           rts
                                                       ; string1 > string2, return 1
stramp5 moveq
```

End Listing Two

Listing Three

```
; This little demonstration program illustrates the undocumented; MS-DOS Int 2EH route to the command interpreter in COMMAND.COM.; In this example we just pass the command tail of the line that; loaded the EXEC2E program.;
; by David Gwillim - 20 June 1986; Appears to work on all current versions of MS-DOS (2.x-3.1); Adapted from Turbo Pascal program written by Russ Nelson, Potsdam, NY.
```

Listing Three
Title EXEC program using undocumented MS-DOS Interrupt 2EH

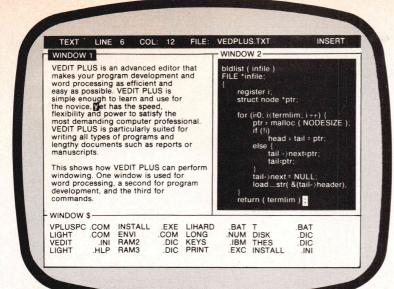
```
cseg segment
org 100H
assume cs:cseg,ds:nothing ; force assembler to provide ; CS overrides in the right places
begin: jmp start
```

begin: jmp start

db 20 dup ('STACK ')
stack equ 5

stkseg dw 0 ; save SS register
__kptr dw 0 ; save SP register
msg1 db 'Beginning DOS Int 2Eh Exec',13,10,'\$'

(continued on page 88)





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16-BIT

Listing Three

(Listing continued, text begins on page 104.)

```
'Terminating DOS Int 2Eh Exec',13,10,'$'
                                                :make our local data addressable
start:
         push
         pop
                   dx. offset msgl
         mov
                                                :display sign-on message
                   ah, 9
21h
                                                ; reset SP to our own internal stack
         mov
                   sp. offset stack
                                                ;Get the offset of the end of our code
;divide by 16 to get paragraphs
                   bx, 1
bx, 1
         shr
                   bx, 1
bx, 1
         shr
                                                ;round paragraphs up
;shrink down this COM program's
         inc
          mov
                   ah, 4ah
                                                 ; memory allocation to what's needed
                                                :save our current SS req
         mov
                   stkseg.ss
                    stkptr, sp
                                                ; and SP reg values
                   si,80h
                                                 ;let DS:SI point to the command
         mov
                                                 :to be executed
                                                ;undocumented DOS exec interrupt
; any error code is now in AX
                   ss, stkseg
sp, stkptr
                                                ; Restore SS and SP registers
          push
                                                restore local addressing
          pop
                    dx. offset msq2
                                                 ; say we're done
          mov
          mov
          mov
                    ax. 4c00h
                                                 ; exit to DOS
endcode equ
          ends
          end
                 begin
                                                                End Listing Three
```

Listing Four

Listing Four

The following little program can set an environment variable whose name is the first command line argument, and whose new value is the second command line argument. For example, to set environment variable XYZ to a value of HELLO, you would run this program using the command SETVAR XYZ HELLO.

The *PURPOSE* of this piece of code is to illustrate an undocumented DOS interrupt entry point (2Eh) that will execute *ANY* DOS command *MITHOUT* having to load another copy of COMMAND.COM. Not only is it faster, but it is the ONLY way to set an environment variable (short of peeking and poking around into memory). You *CAN'T* set an environment variable with the command exec("COMMAND.COM", "CSETXYZ=HELLO") because when the second copy of COMMAND.COM", "CSETXYZ=HELLO") because when the second copy of COMMAND.COM is loaded, it gets its very own environment (a duplicate of the parent's). Although the SET command WILL modify that duplicate copy, it won't modify the parent's!

When I said that interrupt 2Eh can be used to execute *ANY* DOS command, I meant just that! You can leave off the filename extension (as you normally do at the command line), and it will perform the normal search for CCM, EXE, and BAT files to execute, or even execute built-in commands as we've seen above.

Enjoy!

Dan Lewis, owner Key Software Products 440 Ninth Avenue Menlo Park, CA 94025 (415) 364-9847

P.S.- This *IS* an undocumented "feature" of DOS 2.xx. I have NO idea if 3.xx etc support it!

#include <stdio.h>

main(argc, argv)
int argc;
char *argv[];

Set_Var(argv[1], argv[2]);
}

(continued on page 90)

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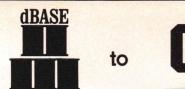
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Listing Four

```
(Listing continued, text begins on page 104.)
```

```
/* Build the command line: "SET <var>=<value>" */
          strcpy(setbfr, "SET ");
strcat(setbfr, variable);
strcat(setbfr, "=");
strcat(setbfr, value);
           /* Now use INT 2Eh to execute it! */
           Execute String (setbfr) :
          /* The really interesting stuff starts here....
Execute_String(s)
char *s;
           long vec22, vec23, vec24;
long Get Vec(vector);
static char bfr[81];
           /* Concatenate a carriage return onto end of command line */
           strcpy(bfr + 1,s) ;
*bfr = strlen(bfr + 1) ;
           strcat (bfr + 1, "\r") ;
           /* preserve cntrl-break, terminate, and critical error vectors */
vec22 = Get Vec(0x22);
vec23 = Get_Vec(0x23);
vec24 = Get_Vec(0x24);
                                             /* necessary! */
/* execute comman
           Release Memory () ;
           Exec (bfr) ;
                                                            command */
           /* reset cntrl-break, terminate, and critical error vectors */
           Set_Vec(0x22, vec22)
Set_Vec(0x23, vec23)
           Set Vec (0x24, vec24)
Exec(s)
#asm
           ; preserve ds, bp, ss, & sp
           push
           push
                      bp
cs:WORD save_ss,ss
cs:WORD save_sp,sp
           mov
           : ds:si -> CR/NULL-terminated command line string
                       si, [bp+4]
           ; restore preserved registers
                      ss, cs:WORD save ss
sp, cs:WORD save sp
           mov
           mov
           pop
           dmp
                       Rtn
save ss:dw
save_sp:dw
save_ds:dw
save_bp:dw
Rtn:
#end
            if (Release())
                       puts ("Release Memory Failure\n") ;
           1
Release()
#asm
           mov
                       ax.cs
           sub
                       ax, 0010h
                       es, ax
           mov
                       bx, ds
                       bx, 1000h
bx, ax
ah, 4Ah
            add
            int
                       21h
                       ax, 0
R Rtn
ax
R_Rtn:
#end
long Get_Vec(vector)
                                  /* Uses DOS function 35h to fetch an interrupt vctr */
unsigned
            vector ;
           1
```

```
ah,35h
al,BYTE [bp+4]
21h
              mov
               int
#end
                                             /* Uses DOS function 25h to set an interrupt vctr */
Set Vec (vector, addr)
#asm
                              ah. 25h
                              al, BYTE [bp+4]
bx, WORD [bp+6]
es, WORD [bp+8]
               mov
                                                                                                      End Listing Four
Listing Five
Listing Five
                   SYSDEF.H
               Standard system definitions
Ross P. Nelson
/* Expanded public/external syntax */
#define FORWARD extern
#define IMPORT extern
#define PUBLIC
#ifdef DEBUG
#define LOCAL
                                     /* Generate symbols if debugging, else don't export */
 *else
 #define LOCAL
                                  static
/* System constants and data types */
#define TRUE 1
#define FALSE 0
typedef unsigned char
typedef byte
typedef unsigned short
typedef unsigned short
                                                      byte;
boolean;
                                                        word;
                                                       selector;
                  STD.C Copyright (C) 1985 Ross P. Nelson
                         Redirect stdin/stdout. Usually called before performing an EXEC, so that the child task will read or write via a file. Sample usage is in the MAIN routine below.
#include <stdio.h>
 #include <iosl.h>
 #include <sysdef.h>
                  IMPORT
                         Set stdin or stdout to the file. Caller is responsible for having opened the file in the corrent mode and positioning it as necessary. Returns a value to be used when reseting stdio to original value.
PUBLIC int setstdio (stdfp, newfp)
FILE *stdfp, *newfp;
byte reset, save;
int handle, redir;
                  handle = ufbs[fileno (newfp)].ufbfh;

redir = ufbs[fileno (stdfp)].ufbfh;

save = OxFF;

peek (PSP[1], Ox18 + handle, &reset, 1);

poke (PSP[1], Ox18 + handle, &save, 1);

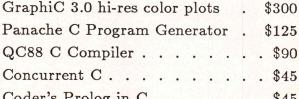
poke (PSP[1], Ox18 + redir, &save, 1);

poke (PSP[1], Ox18 + redir, &reset, 1);

return (int) save;
                   RESTDIO
                           Must be called to reset stdio values to original. Caller is responsible for closing file after restdio.
 PUBLIC void restdio (stdfp, newfp, reset)
 FILE *stdfp, *newfp;
int reset;
 byte direct, old;
int handle, redir;
                   handle = ufbs[fileno (newfp)].ufbfh;
redir = ufbs[fileno (stdfp)].ufbfh;
old = (byte) reset;
peek (PSP[1], 0x18 + redir, &direct, 1);
poke (PSP[1], 0x18 + redir, &old, 1);
poke (PSP[1], 0x18 + handle, &direct, 1);
 #if (PROTOTYPE)
abort (s)
char *s;
                    forintf (stderr, s);
                                                                                        (continued on next page)
                    exit (4);
```

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Listing Five

```
(Listing continued, text begins on page 104.)
```

```
main ()
FILE *f:
                   puts ("Begin test - opening file TEST.XX");
f = fopen ("test.xx", "w");
if (f = NULL)
    abort ("open failed");
                    reset = setstdio (stdout, f);
fprintf (stderr, "invoking LS\n");
/* can't write to stdout */
if (forklp ("ls.exe", "ls", NULL)) ( /* run LS */
restdio (stdout, f, reset); /* clean up if cant exec */
                                        abort ("exec failed");
                                                                                                     /* wait til LS done */
/* stdout <- original value */
                     (void) wait ();
                    restdio (stdout, f, reset); /* stdout fclose (f); puts ("Test completed - LS results in TEST.XX");
sendif
```

End Listing Five

Listing Six

Listing 6 for November 86 16-Bit Column in DDJ

```
* Wildcard filename expansion for MS-DOS 2.00 and later.
;*
;* By: Randy Langer, MicroSphere Technology
ifndef model
                                             : if default model (both small)
model
           eau
                                            : 0 = small code, small data
                                            ; 1 = large code, small data
; 2 = small code, large data
; 3 = large code, large data
endif
codesed segment byte public 'code'
           assume cs:codeseg
           public wildcard
           model and 1
wildcard
else
wildcard
                      proc
                                 near
endif
                                               save frame pointer
           mov
                      bp.sp
                                             : point to our stack
           model and 2
           push
                                            ; save DS if large data ; and get segment of struct ptr
                      ds, [bp+6]
endif
                      bx, [bp+4]
al, [bx]
al, al
                                            ; get offset of struct ptr
; get flag byte
; see if high bit set
           mov
           mov
           or
                                               if so, no more to find
save reg used by DOS call
get current DTA addr
do it
           is
                      rtn_null
                      ah, 47
           mov
           int
                      21h
           mov
                                               save DTA segment
                      ax, es
           pop
push
push
                      es
                                               restore ES
                                              save for later restoration save addr of old DTA
                      ds
           push
                                              get ptr to user's struct
point past flag bytes
set "new" DTA addr
           mov
                      dx, [bp+4]
           add
                      dx,2
                      ah, 26
           mov
           int
mov
mov
                      21h
                      bx, [bp+4]
cl, [bx+1]
ah, 79
                                               get entry pointer again
set search attributes
set token for search next
if this is really search next
           mov
           test
jnz
inc
                      byte ptr [bx],1
not_1st
                                                branch
                      byte ptr [bx]
                                               else, set flag
and set token for search first
           dec
not 1st:
           mov
                      dx, [bx+45]
                                            ; get offset to filespec
if
           model and 2
           mov
                      ds, [bx+47]
endif
           int
                      21h
                                            ; do the search
           pop
                      dx
                                            ; get addr of old DTA
```

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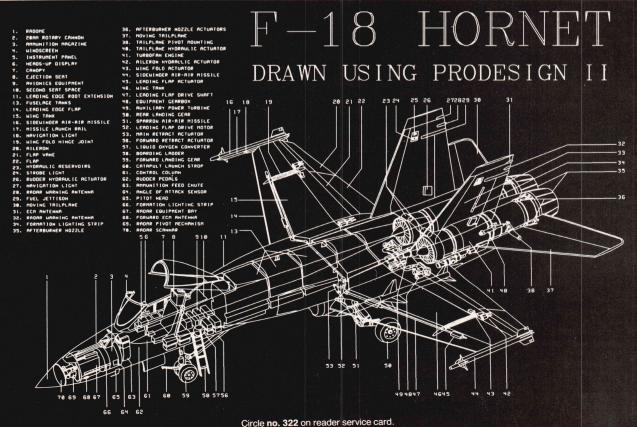
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Listing Six (Listing continued, text begins on page 104.)

```
; save return code from search ; restore DTA ptr
           push
           mov
                                             : restore return code
           pop
                      ax
ds
                                               get back segment of user struct
and its offest
see if search successful
branch if so
           pop
                      bx, [bp+4]
           or
                      ax.ax
                      byte ptr [bx],128; else, say no more
rtn null:
                                            ; return null ptr
; in case of large data
           mov
wild end:
if
           model and 2
           pop
endif
                      bp
                                             ; restore frame pointer
           pop
rtn name:
                                            ; in case of large data model
; offset to file name
; add to struct base
           mov
                      dx.ds
                      ax,32
ax,bx
           add
           jmp
                      wild_end
                                             . and exit
wildcard
                      endo
codeseg ends
           end
                                                                     End Listing Six
```

Listing Seven

```
Listing 7 for November 86 16-Bit Column in DDJ:
     WILDCARD.H for use with WILDCARD.ASM
     by Randy Langer, Microsphere Technology
typedef struct
                       flag;
                char
```

```
tempdata[21]:
                                                                  /* don't mess
                      char
                                                                   with this */
                      char
                                 datetime;
filesize;
                      long
long
                                 filename[13];
                      char
           } W CARD;
           *wildcard():
char
                                                              End Listing Seven
Listing Eight
Listing 8 for November 1986 16-Bit Column in DDJ
     WILDTEST.C Program to demonstrate use of WILDCARD.ASM by Randy Langer, MicroSphere Technology.
#include
                      "stdio.h"
                      "wildcard.h"
#include
main(argc, argv)
                      argc;
STR
                      argv[];
W CARD
                     y.filespec = *++argv;
y.att_sel = 0x10;
y.flag = 0;
while(s = wildcard(sy))
    printf("%s\n", s);
```

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95

STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

```
Listing One (Text begins on page 108.)
                                                                                                                                 A[J]:= Tempo;

I:= I + 1;

J:= J - 1

END; (* IF *)

UNTIL I > J;

IF Left < J THEN SORT(Left, J);

IF I < Right THEN SORT(I, Right);

(* Sort *)
Listing 1. Contents of Turbo Pascal included ProcParm.INC file.
                                              ProcParm.INC
                                                                            Version 1.1 86/05/07
 See ProcParm.PAS for an explanation.
 Author: Mike Babulic Compuserve ID: 72307,314 FIDO: 134/1 3827 Charleswood Dr. N.W. Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T2L 2C7
                                                                                                                            END:
                                                                                                                      BEGIN
                                                                                                                     Sort (FIRST, LAST)
END: (* QuickSort *)
                                                                                                                            ----- Use the ProcParm Procedure -----
procedure Call_ProcParm;
begin
Inline
($89/$EC/ {
                                                                                                                      (SI PROCPARM.INC)
      NINe ($89/$EC/ { MOV SP,BP ;Drop down one level $550 { POP BP } ;Exchange Return Addr & $888/$66/$02/ { SS:MOV SP,[BP+2] ;Exchange Return Addr &
                                                                ;Drop down one level }
                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE Dummyl (VAR A : Vector: P : INTEGER);
                                                                           Procedure Ptr)
                                                                                                                      Call ProcParm;
END: (* Dummy1 *)
                              { SS:XCHG SP, [BP+4] }
{ SS:MOV [BP+2], SP }
                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE Sort1 (VAR A : Vector; P : INTEGER);
                                                                                 End Listing One
Listing Two
Listing 2. Contents of file ProcPar.QK.
                                                                                                                       (*-----*)
                                         ProcParm.OK
                                                                                 Version 1.0 86/04/22
                                                                                                                     PROCEDURE Dummy2 (VAR A : Vector; P : INTEGER);
 Author: Mike Babulic Compuserve ID: 72307,314 FIDO: 134/1
3827 Charleswood Dr. N.W.
Calgary, Alberta,
CANADA
                                                                                                                      ($I PROCPARM.QK)
END; (* Dummy2 *)
                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE Sort2 (VAR A : Vector: P : INTEGER) :
  Inline(
$8B/$66/$02/
                              ( SS:MOV SP, [BP+2]
                                                                  ;Exchange Return Addr &
                                                                                                                      Dummy2(A, P)
END; (* Sort2 *)
                                                                                Procedure Ptr)
                              { SS:XCHG SP,[BP+4] }
{ SS:MOV [BP+2],SP }
{ MOV SP,BP
                                                                                                                                                                       -----*)
                                                                  ;Standard Turbo Return
                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE Create Array(VAR A : Vector; Start, Finish : INTEGER); (* Create a reverse sorted array *)
                                                                      (if no Parameters) }
                                                                                                                      VAR I : INTEGER;
                                                                                                                      BEGIN
FOR I := Start TO Finish DO
A[I] := Finish + 1 - I
END; (* Create_Array *)
                                                                                End Listing Two
Listing Three
                                                                                                                                                                  -----*)
Listing 3. Turbo Pascal demo program for procedural parameters.
                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE Display Array (VAR A : Vector; Start, Finish : INTEGER);
program proc_param_demo;
                                                                                                                      VAR I : INTEGER
CONST FIRST = 1;
LAST = 1000;
                                                                                                                            WRITE('Press <CR> to view array members '); READIN(Dummy); WRITEIN;'
FOR I := Start TO Finish DO
WRITE(A[I]:8);
TYPE Vector - ARRAY [FIRST..LAST] OF INTEGER;
VAR A : Vector;
I, Start, Finish : INTEGER;
                                                                                                                      WRITELN; WRITELN;
END; (* Display_Array *)
                                                  -----*)
                                                                                                                                                               -----*)
PROCEDURE Shell_Sort (VAR A : Vector);
                                                                                                                     PROCEDURE Show Time;
(* Procedure to dislplay time *)

TYPE REGTYPE = record

AX,BX,CX,DX,BP,

DI,SI,DS,ED,FLAGS : INTEGER
VAR I, J, Offset, Skip, Tempo, NData : INTEGER;
In_Order : BOOLEAN;
      NN
NDATA := LAST - FIRST + 1;
Skip := NDATA;
WHILE Skip > 1 DO BEGIN
Skip := Skip DIV 2;
REPEAT
                                                                                                                             TIME_REC = RECORD HOUR, MIN, SEC, HSEC : BYTE END;
REPEAT
IN Order: - TRUE;
FOR J:- FIRST TO LAST - Skip DO BEGIN
I:- J + Skip;
IF A(J) > A(I) THEN BEGIN
IN Order: - FALSE;
Tempo: - A(I);
A(I):- Tempo
END: (* IF *)
UNTIL IN Order;
END: (* FOR *)
UNTIL IN Order;
END: (* Skell_Sort *)
END: (* Skell_Sort *)
                                                                                                                      VAR REGISTER : REGTYPE;
AH : BYTE;
TIME : TIME_REC;
                                                                                                                      BEGIN
                                                                                                                         AH :- $2C;
                                                                                                                             WITH REGISTER, TIME DO BEGIN

AX:= AH SHL 0;

MSDOS (REGISTER);

HOUR:= H1(CX);

MIN := Lo(CX);

SEC := H1(DX);

HSEC := Lo(DX);

WRITELN(' at ',HOUR,' : ',MIN,' : ',SEC,'.',HSEC);
PROCEDURE QuickSort (VAR A : Vector);
      PROCEDURE Sort (Left, Right : INTEGER);
                                                                                                                     END;
END; (* Show Time *)
      VAR I, J,
Pivot, Tempo : INTEGER;
      BEGIN
I := Left; J := Right;
Pivot := A[(Left + Right) DIV 2];
REPEAT
                                                                                                                     BEGIN
                                                                                                                         SIN
Clrscr;
WRITEIN('Array has index range of ',FIRST,' to ',LAST);
WRITE('Enter index of first element to view '); READLN(start); WRITELN;
WRITE('Enter index of last element to view '); READLN(Finish); WRITELN;
IF start < FIRST THEN start := FIRST;
IF (Finish > LAST) THEN Finish := LAST;
IF Finish < Start THEN Finish := Start + (LAST - FIRST + 1) DIV 10;</pre>
```

AAT WHILE A[I] < Pivot DO I := I + 1; WHILE Pivot < A[J] DO J := J - 1; IF I <= J THEN BEGIN

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```
WRITELN('Using ProcParm Procedure '); WRITELN; WRITELN;
Create Array(A, FIRST, LAST);
WRITELN('Using Shell Sort');
WRITE('Start '); Show Time;
Sort1(A,Ofs(Shell Sort));
WRITE('Finish'); Show Time;
Display_Array(A,Start,Finish);
Create Array(A, FIRST, LAST);
WRITEIN('Using QuickSort');
WRITE('Start'); Show Time;
Sortl(A,Ofs(QuickSort');
WRITE('Finish'); Show Time;
Display_Array(A, Start_Finish);
 WRITELN('Using ProcParm.OK '); WRITELN; WRITELN;
Create Array(A, FIRST, LAST);
WRITELN('Using Shell Sort');
WRITE('Start'); Show Time;
Sort2(A,Ofs(Shell Sort));
WRITE('Start');
  Display Array (A, Start, Finish);
  Create Array(A, FIRST, LAST);
WRITELN('Using QuickSort');
WRITE('Start'); Show_Time;
Sort2(A,Ofs(QuickSort));
  WRITE('Finish'); Show_Time;
Display_Array(A, Start, Finish);
                                                                                                                                                          End Listing Three
```

Listing Four

```
ring 4. Definition and implementation modules for BestFit library which s a local model InnerWorking.
DEFINITION MODULE BestFit:
EXPORT QUALIFIED Regression, Slope, Intercept, R2;
PROCEDURE Regression (VAR X, Y : ARRAY OF REAL; (* input *) N, LowerBound : CARDINAL (* input *)); (* Procedure to process arrays X and Y *)
PROCEDURE Slope(): REAL;
(* Function that returns the slope of the best fit line *)
 PROCEDURE Intercept(): REAL;
(* Function that returns the intercept of the best fit line *)
PROCEDURE R2(): REAL;
(* Function that returns the goodness of the best fit line *)
END BestFit.
```

```
MODULE InnerWorking
IMPORT sqrt;
EXPORT Regression, Slope, Intercept, R2;
VAR Sum, SumXX, SumXX, SumYY, SumYY, SumXY, (* Stat summation *)
MeanX, MeanY, SdevX, SdevY: REAL;
PROCEDURE Regression (VAR X, Y : ARRAY OF REAL; (* input *) N, LowerBound : CARDINAL (* input *)); (* Procedure to process arrays X and Y *)
VAR i : CARDINAL;
Xs. Ys : REAL;
      END;

(* Calculate intermediate results *)

MeanX := SumX / Sum;

MeanY := SumY / Sum;

MeanY := SumY / Sum;

SdevX := sqrtt((SumXY - SumX * SumX / Sum)/(Sum - 1.0));

SdevY := sqrtt((SumYY - SumY * SumY / Sum)/(Sum - 1.0));
END Regression;
PROCEDURE Slope(): REAL;
(* Function that returns the slope of the best fit line *)
       IF Sum > 1.0 THEN
RETURN (SumXY - MeanX * MeanY * Sum) / (SdevX * SdevX * (Sum - 1.0))
ELSE RETURN 0.0 (* default value for insufficient data *)
END Slope;
PROCEDURE Intercept(): REAL;
(* Function that returns the intercept of the best fit line *)
       LN
IF Sum > 1.0 THEN
RETURN MeanY - Slope() * MeanX
ELSE RETURN 0.0 (* default value for insufficient data *)
 PROCEDURE R2(): REAL;
(* Function that returns the goodness of the best fit line *)
 VAR R : REAL;
        IF Sum > 1.0 THEN
R:= SdevX / SdevY * Slope();
RETURN R * R
                                                                              (continued on page 99)
```

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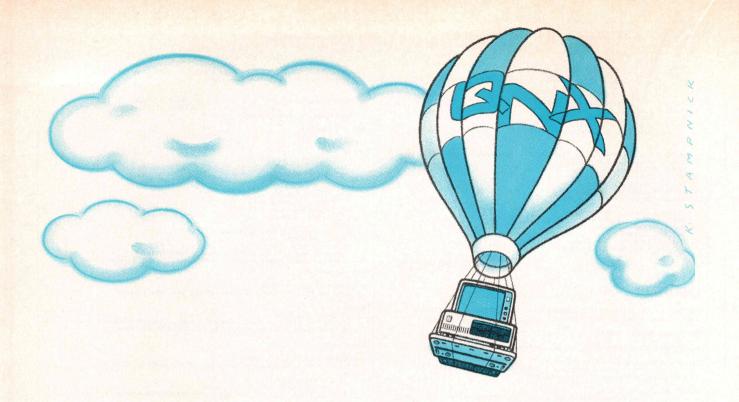
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STRUCTURED **PROGRAMMING**

Listing Four

```
(Listing continued, text begins on page 108.)
        ELSE RETURN 0.0 (* default value for insufficient data *)
     INI
Initilaire inner module by setting stat summation equal to zero *)
Sum := 0.0; SumXY := 0.0;
SumX := 0.0; SumXY := 0.0;
SumY := 0.0; SumYY := 0.0;
                                                                                           End Listing Four
Listing Five
Listing 5. Turbo Pascal program to demosntrate the first method for external menu storage.
program test method1:
 (* Program to test first method for external menu sterage *)
         STRING14 - STRING[14];
STRING80 - STRING[80];
Screen_Image - ARRAY [0..24] OF STRING80;
VAR Shift_Row, Shift_Col, Screen_Line_Count : INTEGER;
   Screen Line : Screen_Image;
   HenuFile : STRING14;
CONST MAX SYMBOL - 255;
 TYPE Charset - Set OF CHAR;
Symbol_Table - ARRAY [0..MAX_SYMBOL] OF INTEGER;
VAR FileVar : TEXT;
Line : STRINGS0;
Table : Symbol Table;
I, K, Error Code : INTEGER;
Symbol Char : CHAR;
Operation Set : Charset;
Duplicate : BOOLEAN;
 PROCEDURE INC (VAR A : INTEGER);
(* Increment integer by one *)
  BEGIN
 END; (* INC *)
 PROCEDURE Upcase Str(VAR S : STRING80);
(* Convert string to upercase *)
VAR I : INTEGER;
BEGIN
        FOR I := 1 TO Length(S) D
S[I] := Upcase(S[I]):
 END; (* Upcase_Str *)
 FUNCTION Extract_Number(Line : STRING80; Skip : INTEGER; VAR ErrorCode : INTEGER) : INTEGER;
 (* Function to extract an integer from a text line *)
VAR J : INTEGER;
  BEGIN
        .R

IF Skip > 0 THEN Delete(Line,1,Skip); (* Remove chars from string *)

(* Remove blanks *)

MHILE Line[1] = ' ' DO

Delete(Line,1,1);
 Delete(line,1);

(* END WHILE *)

Line := Line(1) + Line(2) + Line(3);

VAL(Line,J,Error_Code);

Extract Number := J

END; (* Extract_Number *)
 PROCEDURE Build_Screen(Line : STRING80;
VAR Screen Line_Count : INTEGER;
VAR Screen_Line : Screen_Image);
        IN
IF Length(Line) > 0 THEN BEGIN
   FOR J := 1 TO Length(Line) DO BEGIN
   Ch := Line[J];
   IF Ch IN Operation Set THEN
        Line[J] := CHR(Table[ORD(Ch)]);
   END; (*FOR *)
   Screen Line[Screen_Line_Count] := Line;
   IMC(Screen_Line_Count);
END;
  END;
END; (* Build_Screen *)
                                                                               (continued on next page)
```

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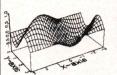
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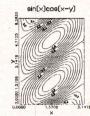
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STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

Listing Five (Listing continued, text begins on page 108.)

```
VAR Shift_Row, Shift_Col, Screen_Line_Count : INTEGER;
Screen Line : Screen Image;
MenuFile : STRING14;
         PROCEDURE Read_Menu(Menu Filename : STRING14;

VAR Shift Row, shift Col,

Screen Line Count : INTEGER;

VAR Screen Line : Screen Image);

(* Procedure to read menu image from text file. If file is *)

(* nonexistant the program will halt. *)
                                                                                                                                                                                                      CONST MAX_SYMBOL - 255;
                    (* Read first line *)
READLN(FileVar, Line);
Upcase Str(Line);
WHILE (NOT Eof(FileVar)) AND (Line <> 'START') DO BEGIN
IF Line(1] IN Operation_set
THEN BEGIN
                                                                                                                                                                                                      TYPE Charset - Set OF CHAR;
Symbol Table - ARRAY [0..MAX SYMBOL] OF INTEGER;
                                                                                                                                                                                                     VAR FileVar : TEXT;
Line : LSTRING;
Table : Symbol Table;
I, K, Error Code,
Upper Left Corner, Upper Right Corner, Lower Left Corner,
Lower Right Corner, Horizontal Line, Vertical Line,
Cross Bar, Left Tee, Right Tee,
Up_Tee, Down Tee,
Left Edge, Right Edge,
Vertical Frames, Horizontal Frames, Frame_Code,
Number : INTEGER:
Symbol_Char : CHAR;
                                        Symbol Char := Line[1];
K := ORD (Symbol Char)
                                         Symbol Char := Line[1];
K: = ORD(Symbol Char);
Table[K] := Extract_Number(Line,1,Error_code);
IF (Error Code > 0) Ton
(NOT (Table[K] IN [0..255])) THEN
Table[K] := Ord('*');
                    (* Read next line *)
READLN(FileVar, Line);
END; (* WHILE *)
                    Screen Line Count := 0;
Shift Col := 0;
Shift Tow := 0;
Shift Row := 0;
(* Read next line that may contain row/column offset *)
FOR I := 1 TO 2 DO BEGIN
READLN(FileVar, Line);
Upcase Str(Line);
Upcase Str(Line);
IF Posd'SHIFTROW', Line) > 0 THEN BEGIN
Shift Row := Extract Number(Line, 8, Error_Code);
IF Error_Code > 0 THEN Shift_Row := 0;
END
                                                                                                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE INC(VAR A : INTEGER);
(* Increment integer by one *)
BEGIN
A := A + 1
END; (* INC *)
                               ELSE IF Pos('SHIFTCOL', Line) > 0 THEN BEGIN
Shift_Col := Extract Number(Line, 8, Error_Code);
IF Error_Code > 0 THEN Shift_Col := 0;
                                                                                                                                                                                                       PROCEDURE Upcase Str(VAR S : LSTRING);
(* Convert string to upercase *)
VAR I : INTEGER;
BEGIN
                               ELSE Build_Screen(Line, Screen_Line_Count, Screen_Line);
                                                                                                                                                                                                                FOR I := 1 TO Length(S) DO S[I] := Upcase(S[I]);
                     WHILE NOT EOF(FileVar) AND (Screen_Line_Count < 25) DO BEGIN
    READLN(FileVar, Line);
    Build Screen(Line, Screen_Line_Count, Screen_Line);
END; (* WHILE *)</pre>
                                                                                                                                                                                                       END: (* Upcase_Str *)
                    Close (FileVar);
                                                                                                                                                                                                       FUNCTION Extract_Number(Line : LSTRING; Skip : INTEGER) : INTEGER; (* Function to extract an integer from a text line *)
VAR J, SUM : INTEGER;
          END
ELSE Halt;
END: (* Read Menu *)
                                                                                                                                                                                                               IF Skip > 0 THEN Delete(Line,1,Skip); (* Remove chars from string *)

(* Remove blanks *)

WHILE Line[1] = ' DO
    Delete(Line,1,1);

(* END WHILE *)

SUM := 0;

J := 1;

WHILE (J <= Length(Line)) AND (Line[J] IN ['0'..'9']) DO BEGIN
    SUM := 10 * SUM + ORD(Line[J]) - ORD('0');

INC(J)

END;
PROCEDURE DISP STR(S: STRING80: Row, Col: INTEGER);
(* Procedure to write a string to the screen memory *
TYPE SCREEN80 - ARRAY [1..25, 1..80, 1..2] OF CHAR;
VAR MONODISP : SCREEN80 Absolute $B000:0000;
COLODISP : SCREEN80 Absolute $B800:0000;
I, J, Mode : INTEGER;
                                                                                                                                                                                                      Extract_Number := SUM
END; (* Extract_Number *)
          J := Length(S);
Mode := MEM($0040:$0049);
IF Mode IN [2..3] THEN
FOR I := 1 TO J DO
COLODISP[ROW,COl + I - 1,1] := S[I];
IF Mode - 7 THEN
FOR I := 1 TO J DO
WINDERS [PROMOCOL + I - 1, 1] = S[I];
                                                                                                                                                                                                       FUNCTION Get Char Code(S : LSTRING) : INTEGER;
(* Function To interpret frame symbol and return its ASCII code *)
                               MONODISP [Row, Col + I -1,1] :- S[I];
                                                                                                                                                                                                      VAR I, ASCII Code : INTEGER;
 END:
                                                                                                                                                                                                      BEGIN

IF S - 'ULC' THEN ASCII Code := Upper Left corner

ELSE IF S - 'URC' THEN ASCII Code := Upper Right Corner

ELSE IF S - 'LLC' THEN ASCII Code := Lower Left Corner

ELSE IF S - 'LRC' THEN ASCII Code := Lower Right Corner

ELSE IF S - 'LRC' THEN ASCII Code := Lower Right Corner

ELSE IF S - 'UN' THEN ASCII Code := Vertical Line

ELSE IF S - 'UN' THEN ASCII Code := Vertical Line

ELSE IF S - 'LRT' THEN ASCII Code := Coss Bar

ELSE IF S - 'LRT' THEN ASCII Code := Left Tee

ELSE IF S - 'LRT' THEN ASCII Code := Left Tee

ELSE IF S - 'UN' THEN ASCII Code := Down Tee

ELSE ASCII Code := ORC('-'); (* error value return 'A' *)

Get Char Code := ASCII Code;

END; (* Get Char Code *)
PROCEDURE Show_Menu(VAR Shift_Row, Shift_Col, Screen_Line_Count : INTEGER; VAR Screen_Line : Screen_Image);
 VAR I : INTEGER:
           FOR I := 0 TO Screen Line Count DO
DISP_STR(Screen_Line[], (I+Shift_Row+1), (1+Shift_Col));
 END; (* Show_Menu *)
ClrScr;
WRITE('Enter filename '); READLN(MenuFile); WRITELN;
Read_Menu(MenuFile, Shift Row, Shift Col,
Screen_Line Count, Screen_Line);
Show_Menu(Shift_Row, Shift_Col, Screen_Line_Count, Screen_Line);
REPEAT UNTIL KeyPressed;
END.
 BEGIN
                                                                                                                                                                                                      PROCEDURE Build_Screen(Line : LSTRING;
VAR Screen_Line_Count : INTEGER;
VAR Screen_Line : Screen_Image);
                                                                                                                                      End Listing Five
                                                                                                                                                                                                      VAR I, J, K, Long, Count : INTEGER;
Ch, Symbol : CHAR;
Build_Line, Sub_String : LSTRING;
Listing Six
                                                                                                                                                                                                    BEGIN

IF Length(Line) > 0 THEN BEGIN

J:= 1;
Long:= Length(Line);
Build Line:= '';
Count:= 0;
WHILE J <- Long DO BEGIN
Ch:= UpCase(Line[J]);
CASE Ch OF

'E': BEGIN
 Listing 6. Turbo Pascal program to demosntrate the second method for external menu storage.
 program test_method2;
 (* Program to test the second method for external menu storage *)
              STRING14 - STRING[14];
LSTRING - STRING[255];
Screen_Image - ARRAY [0..24] OF LSTRING;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          (continued on page 103)
```

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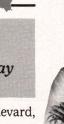
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STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

Listing Six (Listing continued, text begins on page 108.)

```
Sub_String := '';
FOR I := 1 TO 3 DO
Sub_String := Sub_String + Line[J+I];
J := J T 3; (* advance character pointer *)
Symbol := CHR(Get Char Code(Sub_String));
Build Line := Build_Line + Symbol;
INC(Count);
ND;
              INC(Count);
END:
'D': BEGIN (* Duplicate a frame character *)
Sub String := Line[J+1] + Line[J+2] + Line[J+3];
J := J + 4; (* advance character pointer *)
Symbol := CHR(Get Char Code(Sub String));
Sub String := Line[J] + Line[J+T];
J := J + 1;
K := Extract Number(Sub String,0);
IF (K > 0) THEN BEGIN
Count := Count + K;
                                               Count := Count + K;
FOR I := 1 TO K DO
Build Line := Build Line + Symbol;
END; (* IF *)
              END; (* IF *)
END;

'S': BEGIN (* Skip * column positions *)
Sub string := Line[J+1] + Line[J+2];
J := J + Z; (* advance character pointer *)
K := Extract Number(Sub String,0);
IF (K > 0) THEN BEGIN
Count := Count + K;
FOR I := 1 TO K DO
Build Line := Build Line + ' ';
END; (* IF*)
END;
                END; (* IF*)

END;

END;

INC(J);

INC(J);

WHILE (Line(J) <> '|') AND (J <= Long) DO BEGIN

Build Line := Build Line + Line(J);

INC(JT; INC(Count))

END; (* WHILE *)

Count := Count - 1;

END;
                  '#' : BEGIN
                                                SGIN
Sub String := Line[J+1] + Line[J+2];
J := J + 2; (* advance character pointer *)
K := Extract Number(Sub String, 0);
IF (K < Right Edge) AND (Count < K) THEN BEGIN
FOR I := I TO K - Count DO
Build Line := Build Line + ' ';
Count := K;</pre>
                                                                                                 END; (* IF *)
                                                                 EMD;

'V': BEGIN (* Draw vertical edges *)

Build Line := CHR(Vertical Line);

FOR I := Left_Edge+1 TO Right_Edge-1 DO

Build Line := Build Line ∓ ' ';

Build_Line := Build_Line + CHR(Vertical_Line);
                                                                                          END:
                                                                 END;

'H': BEGIN (* Draw horizontal edge *)

Symbol: - CHR(Horizontal Line);

FOR I: - Left Edge+1 TO Right Edge-1 DO

Build_Line: - Build_Line + Symbol;
                                                                                        END;
                                                 END; (* CASE
                                END: (* CASE *)
INC(J);
WHILE Line[J] = * DO INC(J);
END: (* FOR *)
Screen_Line[Screen_Line_Count] := Build_Line;
INC(Screen_Line_Count);
END; (* Build Screen *)
BEGIN
                N
Assign(FileVar, Menu_Filename);
(*$I-*) Reset(FileVar); (*$I+*)
IF (IOResult = 0)
THEN BEGIN
                               N BEGIN

(* Initialize screen line strings *)

FOR I := 0 TO 24 DO

Screen Line[I] := '';

Left Edge := 1;

Right Edge := 80;

Vertical Frames := 2;

Horizontal Frames := 2;
                             Horizontal Frames := 2;

(* Read first line *)
READLN(FileVar, Line);
Upcase Str(Line);
WHILE (NOT Eof(FileVar)) AND (Line <> 'START') DO BEGIN
Symbol Char := Line[1];
K := ORD(Symbol Char);
IF Symbol Char IN ('R', 'L', 'H', 'V') THEN BEGIN
Number := Extract Number (Line,1);
IF (Error Code = 0) THEN
CASE Symbol Char OF

'R' : Right Edge := Number;
'L' : Left Edge := Number;
'H' : If (Number IN [1.2]) THEN
HORIZONTAL Frames := Number;
'V' : IF (Number IN [1.2]) THEN
END; (* IF *)
END; (* CASE *)
END; (* CASE *)
END; (* GASE *)
END; (* WHILE *)

LA Check edges *)
                                (* Check edges *)
IF (Right Edge - Left_Edge) <- 4 THEN BEGIN
Left Edge :- 1;
Right Edge :- 80;
EMD; (* IF *)
                               Frame_Code := 10 * Horizontal_Frames + Vertical_Frames;
(* Select frame type *)
CASE_Frame_Code_OF
11 : BEGIN
                                                                               Upper Left_Corner := 218;
Upper Right Corner := 191;
Lower_Left Corner := 192;
Lower_Right Corner := 217;
Horizontal Line := 196;
Vertical Line := 179;
Cross_Bar := 197;
```

```
Left_Tee := 195;
Right_Tee := 180;
Up_Tee := 193;
Down_Tee := 194;
                                       GIN
Upper Left Corner := 214;
Upper Right Corner := 183;
Lower Left Corner := 181;
Lower Right Corner := 186;
Horizontal Line := 186;
Vertical Line := 186;
Cross Bar := 215;
Left Tee := 199;
Right Tee := 182;
Up Tee := 208;
Down Tee := 210;
D;
                                END:
                   21 : BEGIN
                                       GIN

Upper Left Corner := 213;
Upper Right Corner := 184;
Lower Left Corner := 189;
Lower Right Corner := 190;
Horizontal Line := 205;
Vertical Line := 179;
Cross Bar := 216;
Left Tee := 198;
Right Tee := 181;
Up Tee := 207;
Down Tee := 209;
D;
                                END .
                   22 : BEGIN
                                         Upper_Left_Corner := 201;
                                                    Upper Right Corner := 187;

Lower_Left Corner := 200;

Lower_Right Corner := 188;

Horizontal Line := 205;

Vertical Line := 186;

Cross Bar := 206;

Left Tee := 204;

Right Tee := 185;

Up Tee := 202;

Down_Tee := 203;

D:
                      END; (* CASE *)
                     Screen Line Count := 0;
Shift Col := 0;
Shift Row := 0;
Shift Row := 0;
(* Read next line that may contain row/column offset *)
FOR I := 1 TO 2 DO BEGIN
READLN(FileVar, Line);
Upcase Str(Line);
Upcase Str(Line);
IF Pos('SHIFTROW',Line) > 0 THEN BEGIN
Shift Row := Extract Number(Line, 8);
IF Error_Code > 0 THEN Shift_Row := 0;
END
                                ELSE IF Pos('SHIFTCOL', Line) > 0 THEN BEGIN
Shift_Col := Extract Number(Line, 8);
IF Error_Code > 0 THEN Shift_Col := 0;
FND
                                 ELSE Build_Screen(Line, Screen_Line_Count, Screen_Line);
                      END; (* FOR *)
                      WHILE NOT EOF(FileVar) AND (Screen_Line_Count < 25) DO BEGIN
READLN(FileVar, Line);
Build Screen(Line,Screen_Line_Count,Screen_Line);
END: (* WHILE *)</pre>
                      Screen Line Count := Screen Line Count - 1; Close(FileVar):
            END
            ELSE BEGIN
                     WRITE (^G^G);
Halt;
 END;
END; (* Read_Menu *)
  PROCEDURE DISP_STR(S : LSTRING; Row, Col : INTEGER); (* Procedure to write a string to the screen memory
  TYPE SCREENSO - ARRAY [1..25,1..80,1..2] OF CHAR;
  VAR MONODISP : SCREEN80 Absolute $B000:0000;
COLODISP : SCREEN80 Absolute $B800:0000;
I, J, Mode : INTEGER;
FOR I := I TO J DO

COLODISP[Row,Col + I - 1,1] := S[I];

IF Mode = 7 THEN

FOR I := 1 TO J DO

MONDOISP[Row,Col + I -1,1] := S[I];

END; (* DISP_STR *)
  PROCEDURE Show_Menu(VAR Shift_Row, Shift_Col, Screen_Line_Count : INTEGER; VAR Screen_Line : Screen_Image);
  VAR I : INTEGER;
   BEGIN
            FOR I
                     I := 0 TO Screen Line Count DO
DISP_STR(Screen_Line[I],(I+Shift_Row+1),(1+Shift_Col));
  END; (* Show_Menu *)
  BEGIN (*----*)
         CIrScr;
WRITEL'Enter filename '); READLN(MenuFile); WRITELN;
Read Menu(MenuFile, Shift Row, Shift Col,
Screen Line Count, Screen Line);
Show Menu (Shift Row, Shift Col, Screen Line Count, Screen Line);
REPEAT UNTIL KeyPressed;
                                                                                                                                                    End Listings
  END.
```

Critical Error Handling

In the July 1986 16-Bit Toolbox column, I quoted a letter stating that Computer Innovations' C compiler, Version 1.31, has been placed in the public domain. This was and is completely incorrect, and although a retraction has already been printed elsewhere in *DDJ*, I wish to apologize to Computer Innovations for publishing this letter without checking the facts—major league stupidity on my part.

Comparing Strings

As the October column included two listings of 8086 string searching routines, I thought I'd continue the trend this month with 8086- and 68000based string comparison routines (Listings One and Two, page 86). These procedures work very much like the stremp library function in C does and return flags indicating whether the first string is less than, equal to, or greater than the second string. The routines are not completely symmetrical but do indicate how the 8086's special string instructions can provide a considerable space and speed advantage over the 68000's in some situations.

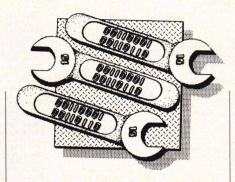
Changing the Master Environment

The October 1986 16-Bit Toolbox column included a brief introduction to environment blocks under MS-DOS, and at that time I promised to discuss several different ways to change the master environment block from an executing program. After considering the matter further, I have decided to break that promise, and this month I will present only one meth-

by Ray Duncan

od (which I feel to be the safest and most portable).

MS-DOS has an undocumented entry point, software interrupt 2eh, which is called with registers ds:si



pointing to a command string in the form of a count byte, followed by ASCII text, followed by a carriage return (which is not included in the count). This entry point appears to be a sort of back door to the command interpreter buried in COMMAND.COM, and if you pass it a string of the form set name=parameter, you will find that the system's master environment block will be modified rather than just your program's local environment block.

Although int 2eh is not discussed in any Microsoft reference or documentation I have seen (even the OEM adaptation guide or the new MS-DOS Technical Reference Encyclopedia), it seems to be present and work the same way in all PC-DOS/MS-DOS versions 2.0 through 3.2. Because Microsoft is now clearly focusing its operating system efforts on 80286-based protected mode versions of DOS, I suspect that the 8086/88-based versions 2 and 3 of DOS are going to become fairly static (except perhaps for bug fixes). Therefore, it should be safe to build calls to int 2eh into your application software for these DOS versions.

I have two listings this month to illustrate the use of *int 2eh*. The first (Listing Three, page 86) is from David Gwillim in Los Angeles and is in the form of a small macro assembler COM program. David has contributed many other interesting and useful utilities to bulletin boards in the Los Angeles area. The second example (Listing Four, page 88) is from Dan Lewis of Key Software Products, in Menlo Park, California, who contributed a (DeSmet) C routine called *Set _Var* that demonstrates use of the undocumented *int 2eh* function to

change the master environment block. Dan is an associate professor of computer science at Santa Clara University.

File Handles

Ross Nelson of San Jose writes: "I have been following the file handles/redirection letters in your column, and I have an observation that you may find interesting. Although it seems like the DUP and FDUP functions (int 21h, functions 45h and 46h, respectively) are tailor-made for redirection (and I wouldn't be surprised if that is the approach Unix uses), that is not the method MS-DOS uses internally. I have included the C code for a routine called STD.C that emulates the method COMMAND.COM uses to do redirection (at least, this method was used in MS-DOS, Version 3.0, last time I checked).

"MS-DOS apparently keeps a set of 'actual' handles deep in the bowels of the operating system, with reference counts and so on. Each 'task' gets its own set of 'virtual' handles, which always begin with handle 0. The virtual-to-actual translation table is held in the program segment prefix for each task. The code I am supplying was written before I saw your May column, which pointed out that the table doesn't have to reside there because there is a pointer and a count in the PSP that points to the actual table. Anyway, when you issue a redirection command to COMMAND.COM, it doesn't bother with DUP and FDUP, it just mucks with the virtual-to-actual table in the PSP of the task that will run with redirection."

Ross' program accompanies this month's column as Listing Five, page 91.

File-name Wildcards

Randy Langer, of MicroSphere Technology in Chico, California, writes: "I am sending you an assembly-language C function [Listing Six, page 92] that performs wildcard file-name expansion under MS-DOS 2.x. Adapted

from the documentation presented by Peter Norton [The Programmer's Guide to the IBM PC (Redmond, Wash.: Microsoft Press, 1985)], this function supplies a solution to a common problem in writing operating system utilities.

"To use this function, the user first defines a structure as typedefed in wildcard.h [Listing Seven, page 94]. Then, for each filespec to be expanded, the user copies a pointer to the filespec into the structure and initializes the flag member to 0. Thereupon, the user repeatedly calls wildcard(), passing a pointer to the structure defined for this purpose. The function call will either return a pointer to the structure's filename member or NULL if no more matching file names exist. The example shown in wildtest.c [Listing Eight, page 94] will clarify this.

'Assuming the function returns the file-name pointer, other data regarding the file are also available from the call. The structure member *f_atts* contains the 'attributes' of the file (read-only, subdirectory, and so on; see Norton, page 116). The member datetime contains the file's time/ date stamp in a format that is compatable with the Aztec C time library functions. The filesize member contains what its name suggests. The final member, tempdata, contains link data for subsequent search next calls, so keep yer mitts offa it.

"It should be noted that the returned file name does not include the drive/path involved; this must be divined from the file spec. The algorithm in wildtest.c shows a method for doing this."

New Books to Buy

Strauss, Edmund. Inside the 80286. New York: Brady Communications Co., 1986.

Edmund Strauss is a senior application marketing engineer for the 80286 microprocessor and clearly knows his stuff. This book is a very lucid presentation of the special features of the 80286, including its additional registers and instructions, protected virtual-addressing modes, task switching, and privilege levels. The book includes many excellent diagrams and several lengthy and well-commented assembly-language programming examples, and it even finishes up with

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16-BIT

(continued from page 105)

schematics and instructions to build your own small 80286-based system highly recommended.

Concurrent DOS

Henry Velick of Monsey, New York, writes: "After reading your July column, and Mr. Mullan's contributions in particular, here are a few thoughts to add to the raging Concurrent PC-DOS controversy. The first is a question: how many useful (usable, wellused, common, and so on) PC programs will support a dumb ASCII terminal? Answer: not too many. As far as I know, most of the big-selling business programs, such as Lotus 1-2-3, dBASE III, Microsoft Word, and Crosstalk, are inextricably tied to the PC keyboard and display adapters. How useful, then, can a multiuser system be that supports only one keyboard/display, no matter how many dumb terminals it might support?

"There is, by the way, a reasonable alternative. A small company in New York state, called ANEX Technology, has some hardware/software products that allow up to four users on a PC or PC/XT and up to eight on a PC/ AT. Unlike with Concurrent PC-DOS, each user has full use of a genuine PC keyboard (or aftermarket equivalent) and a real PC display (MDA, CGA, Hercules, Tecmar, and so on). Very few programs cannot run on this system. Those that can't require certain hardwired memory locations to be available—most of these are games. But I have seen an XT with four monitors simultaneously running 1-2-3, a BA-SICA graphics demo, WordStar, and a screen-oriented data-entry program with very little degradation of performance-very impressive.

"ANEX's products are called MPC-4 and MPC-8 for the PC and AT, respectively. There is also a new low-end version called PC-ANEX that supports only two users. And although certainly more expensive than a copy of Concurrent PC-DOS, they are also a good deal cheaper than the additional PCs. No, I don't work for ANEX."

DDJ

(Listings begin on page 86.)

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STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

Turbo Pascal Procedural Parameters, Local Modules in Modula-2

In this issue, I will discuss implementing procedural parameters in Turbo Pascal, local modules in Modula-2, and two methods for modifying menus of an application program without editing it.

Procedural Parameters

Turbo Pascal does not support procedural parameters. Procedural parameters enable programmers to write applications that can easily employ alternate methods. For example, a program sorting several records can examine the size of the data and determine which sorting method to use. If there are few records, a bubble sort is applied; for a moderate number of records, the Shell-Metzner sorting method is used; and for a large data set, quick-sort is employed.

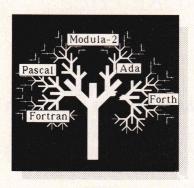
Mike Babulic, of Calgary, Canada, has implemented procedural parameters; he offers three versions that differ in speed and reliance on Pascal and machine language. You can download them from the Borland SIG on CompuServe, where they are stored as an archive file. You will need the DEARC.PAS utility, available in the same SIG, to unpack all Mike's files.

The archive file contains six files:

- 1. ProcParm.PAS—Mike's documentation with his example program.
- 2. ProcParm.INC—Contains the *call*_*ProcParm* procedure.
- 3. ProcParm.QK—In-line code to be used instead of the *call_ProcParm* procedure. Quicker execution, but larger programs.

by Namir Clement Shammas

4. ProcParm.BIN—The third (and best) alternative, an externally assembled binary file. It is noted for fastest execution speed because of less stack manipulation and the least code added



to the program (12 bytes!).

- 5. ProcParm.P—This is the "glue" that you include in a program so it can use ProcParm.BIN.
- 6. ProcParm.ASM—The source code for ProcParm.BIN.

The source code accompanying this column (Listings One and Two, page 96) includes that for the first two methods only.

The three versions to implement procedural parameters are:

1. The *call_ProcParm* procedure—This procedure is written in Turbo Pascal with no in-line code. When *call_ProcParm* is called by a procedure or function, it causes a short jump to the procedure whose offset is the last parameter of the calling procedure. This is done by swapping the last parameter, a pointer to a procedure, and the return address of the calling routine on the stack.

Using call_ProcParm, procedures are passed as parameters to other procedures. This is accomplished by defining a dummy procedure or function with exactly the same arguments as the procedure to be passed, except that a final added integer-type parameter is also defined. When the calling procedure invokes the dummy procedure, it passes the offset of the procedure to be executed in this last parameter. The Ofs function is frequently used for this purpose.

ProcParm returns to the routine specified by the last parameter of the dummy routine, and the stack will look exactly the same as if the "returned to" procedure had been called by the procedure that called

the dummy one.

2. The in-line code method (Proc-Parm.QK)—You can *include* the Proc-Parm.QK file in your dummy procedure instead of calling the *ProcParm* procedure. This speeds up a program because fewer 8088 instructions are executed for jumping to the passed procedure. Be aware, however, that the cost of this speed is a larger program.

The *ProcPtr* type need not be declared if you use ProcParm.QK—the *integer* type is employed instead.

3. ProcParm.BIN and ProcParm.P—The ProcParm.P file is *include*d in your program to allow it to use the contents of the ProcParm.BIN file. As in the previous two methods, a dummy procedure is created with the procedure to be run as the last parameter. This is where the similarity ends.

ProcParm.P allows you to call *FAR* procedures and functions that lie outside the body of the program. In addition, it allows your programs to call procedures and functions in the body of your Turbo program (*NEAR* calls).

You can also make a *FAR* call with an offset. This is useful if you have set aside an area of storage for a group of procedures or functions. The method used is quite a bit slower than the standard *FAR* call. If speed is important, you should save the address of each procedure in a variable and use the regular *FAR* call. Mike has included a function to make life easier for you.

One problem with the FAR calls that Mike hasn't been able to solve yet is that you can't make them from inside the Turbo environment. You have to create a .COM file and execute that. If anyone comes up with a workable solution, please let Mike know.

Listing Three, page 96, shows an example I wrote using the first two methods. The program creates an ordered array of integers and reverses their order. In each method I have used the Shell sort and quicksort tech-

niques. The sample program also incorporates a routine to report the time at the beginning and end of a sorting method. This should give you a feel for the speed of each of Mike's routines.

Local Modules in Modula-2

The Modula-2 language supports local modules, a valuable feature that has received little attention. Local modules are modules that are nested inside others. Their interface with the parent module is established using import and export lists. The interface of local modules is very strictfor example, if the local module needs to write a string to the screen, it must explicitly import the Write-String procedure from the parent module. This clearly differs from the interface of ordinary Modula-2 procedures. The export lists contains all the items exported by the local module.

The advantages of local modules are twofold. First, the variables used in local modules are static: their values are retained between calls to the local modules. The second advantage is that local modules can initialize their static variables. This is done once, the first time the local module is called.

The advantage of using local modules, especially within library modules, is to hide some details concerning intermediate variables involved in certain calculations. One example, often mentioned in Modula-2 textbooks, is the generation of random numbers. The local module responsible for returning a random number is assigned the task of initializing the seed value. Its value is preserved by a local static variable between calls to the local module.

Listing Four, page 97, shows an example of using a local module inside a library module. The library module BestFit provides routines for a linear regression between two arrays, X and Y. The module exports functions that return the slope, intercept, and coefficient of determination statistics. The local module InnerWorking initializes the statistical summations, contains the Regression procedure to update them with data, and calculates intermediate results. The variables within the local module are both static and invisible to an applica-

tion program employing module BestFit. This gives more of a blackbox effect, in which intermediate data is retained by the library module and the final results are passed back to the calling application.

Local modules and their static variables can be used in a variety of other applications. A library module, for example, manipulates a stack of items and protects it from corruption. Procedures and functions are used to push, pop, rotate, and swap data items in the stack. The application program performs data transfer with static variables in the library module.

Modifying Menus Without Program Editing

Menus are employed in "friendly" application programs. Aesthetically appealing menus are placed in single- or double-line frames using extended ASCII characters. Normally, these programs contain the code for the menus. This means that if you want to alter the menu text, you must edit and recompile the source code. An alternative method is to store the menu text in a separate file. At run

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STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING (continued from page 109)

time, the application program reads the menu files. Thus, you can modify the menu text with an editor, leaving the compiled application program intact. This method was chosen by the developers of the Macintosh, who call the files containing the menu data "resource files."

I'll get you started by introducing two ways to store menu information in a separate file. Each method offers a type of "menu builder" that reads a different structure for the menu text.

The first approach is the simpler one. It is based on the idea that most text editors cannot insert and display extended ASCII characters. The solution lies in the following steps:

1. Type a text that resembles the framed menu text, such that the frame characters are substituted with displayable characters (for example, the bar, hyphen, underscore, plus sign, and so on).

2. Construct a list that maps the above displayable characters with the ASCII code number of the frame characters.

Listing Five, page 99, shows a program that implements this method. The procedure Build_Screen reads the menu text file, which contains the mapping list discussed above (one item per line). The character set used is $[!, @, \#, \$, ^, \&, /, \backslash, ', -, _]$. The mapping list is delimited by the keyword START, which can be followed by two menu-frame shift coordinators. SHIFTCOL < number > and SHIFTROW <number> tell the menu builder that the menu frame is displaced by the specified number of columns and rows, respectively. The shift declarations can appear in any order and are optional, with default values of 0. The next lines contain the menu text. The menu builder scans each line, one character at a time, and translates any character found in the mapping list. Procedure Show_Menu displays the translated strings that form the menu,

showing the sought frame characters. Procedure *DISP_STR* is used to write to the screen of an IBM PC directly for fast display.

The structure of the menu text file is simple and gives you a good idea of what the menu looks like. The sizes of the menu text files are larger than those of the next method, in which the menu text is compressed. The second technique uses a menu interpreter/builder because the menu text contains display commands. Listing Six, page 100, shows a test program using this method. The structure of the menu text file is as follows:

- 1. Frame parameters—Can contain any of the following directives (each is composed of a single letter followed by a number):
- L—Left-edge shift to specify the column position of the left edge of the menu frame. Its value ranges between 1 (default) and that of the right edge minus 4.
- *R*—Right-edge shift to specify the column position of the right edge of

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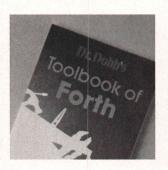
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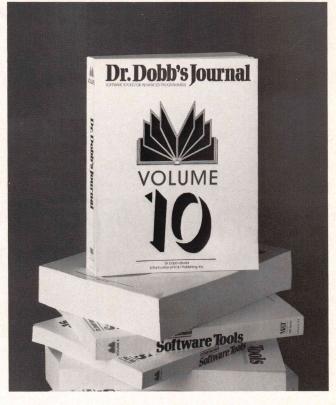
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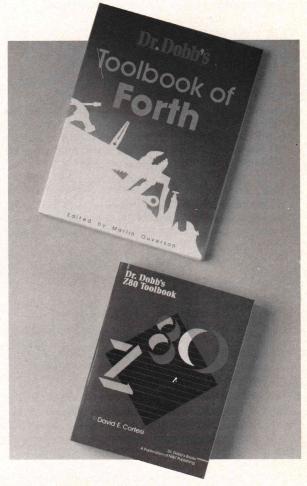
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STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING (continued from page 112)

the menu frame. Its value ranges between that of the left edge plus 4 and 80 (the default).

- *H*—Specifies either 1 or 2 as the number of lines in the horizontal menu-frame edges.
- *V*—Specifies either 1 or 2 as the number of lines in the vertical menuframe edges.
- 2. START delimiter—Used because the above parameters are optional and can appear in any sequence; it is used to delimit this set of parameters from the optional column and row shift parameters.
- 3. Column/row shift parameters—Use the keywords *SHIFTCOL* or *SHIFT-ROW*, followed by the corresponding magnitude. Give the column and row distance between the upper-left corners of both the physical screen and the menu frame.
- 4. Menu-building commands—Provide the following symbols and characters used in building the desired menu and its frame:
- @<3-char code>—Used to specify a single extended ASCII-coded character. Function Get_Char_Code documents the three-letter codes of various parts of the menu frame. For example, ULC represents the upper-left corner.
- *D*<3-char code><2-digit repeat factor>—Used to duplicate a frame character. The three-character codes are used to specify the frame character, and two subsequent digits specify the number of times the character is duplicated.
- S<2-digit>—Used to skip the number of columns specified by the two digits.
- Double quote—Used to signal that a menu text follows. A bar symbol is used optionally to delimit the text.
- # < 2-digit > Used to jump to the column position specified by the two-digit number.
- *V*—Used to draw the left and right vertical frame edges with spaces in between.
- *H*—Used to draw a horizontal line between the left and right edges.

The procedures *DISP_STR* and *Show _Menu* are used as in the first method to display the menu in question quickly.

Tables 1 and 2, below, show menu text files that display the same framed menu using the first and second methods, respectively. The text in Table 2 is terser and more cryptic and thus is recommended for frequent use. For casual users, I recommend the first method.

Because the two methods are not language or hardware dependent, they can be implemented easily in other languages. For programmers who work with multiple languages and translate programs, this approach is attractive because the text files are reused without any change.

With menu-intensive applications it is more feasible to translate the menu builders.

Bibliography

Beidler, J., and Jackowitz, P. *Modula-* 2. Boston, Mass.: PWS Publishers, 1986.

DD.I

(Listings begin on page 96.)

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```
/201
         <-- Upper-left corner
\187
         <-- Upper-right corner
&200
         <-- Lower-left corner
%188
         <-- Lower-right corner
$204
         <-- Left tee
@185
         <-- Right tee
^202
         <-- Upper tee
!203
         <-- Lower tee
-205
         <-- Horizontal line
         <-- Vertical line
1186
START
    MAIN
                      MENU
                                           [Q]uit
                                          [Esc]ape
  1) Prepare data
  2) Calculate results
  3) Print results
```

Table 1: Contents of a menu text file using the first menu-creation method. Comments have been added to the coded symbols.

```
H2
V2
L01
R56
START

@ULC DHLN36 @DNT DHLN17 @URC

@VLN S36 @VLN S17 @VLN

@VLN S08 "M A I N M E N U! S09 @VLN " [Q]uit! S08 @VLN

@VLN S36 @VLN " [Esc]ape! @VLN

@VLN S36 @VLN " [Esc]ape! @VLN

@VLN DHLN36 @UPT DHLN17 @VLN

@VLN " 1) Prepare data! #54 @VLN

V

@VLN " 3) Calculate results! #54 @VLN

V

@VLN " 3) Print results! #54 @VLN

QULC DHLN54 @LRC
```

Table 2: Contents of a menu text file using the second method. The menu displayed is equivalent to that obtained in Table 1.

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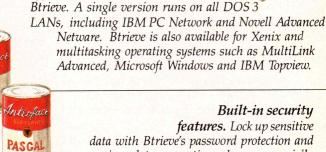
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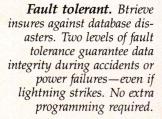
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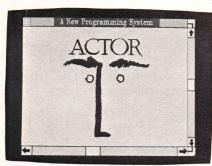
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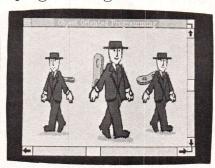
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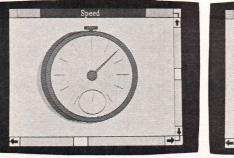
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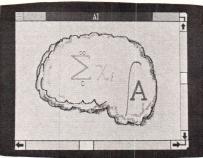
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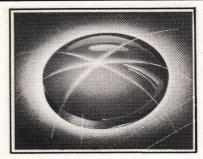
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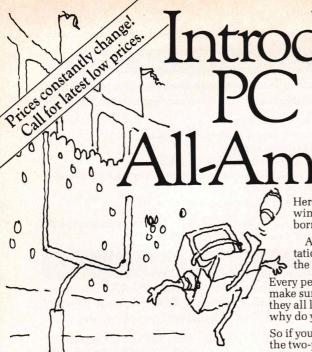
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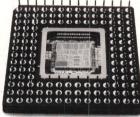
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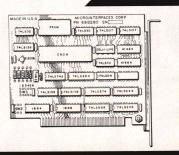
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Alsys launches PC AT-TO-370 ADA Cross-Compiler at November ADA Expo; 80286 Debugger also introduced.



A new Alsys cross-compiler permitting Ada programs to be written on an IBM-PC AT and executed on an IBM 370 was introduced at the November Ada Expo in Charleston, W. VA. The crosscompiler, pre-validated to AJPO test suite 1.7, is priced at \$2,995 and includes a 4 MB RAM board.

Two compilers, the Alsys validated PC AT self-hosted compiler, and the AT-to-370 cross-compiler, are offered as an option at \$4,995. One RAM

> The cross-compiler, and especially the two-compiler option, implements a "distributed programming" environment for which the Ada language and its 'package'' concept is particularly suited. The twocompiler option permits developers to program in Ada and test their results at

their workstations before uploading 370 object code to the mainframe.

Alsys also introduced its PC AT debugger called AdaPROBE at the Expo. AdaPROBE combines a unique Ada-VIEWER with regular debug facilities.

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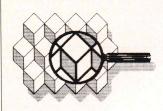
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OF INTEREST



Languages

MicroMotion has released MasterForth, an implementation of Forth in the Forth-83 standard dialect. It runs on the Macintosh, IBM PC line, Apple II series, Commodore 64, and Z80 CP/M computers, and programs written in Master-Forth for one computer can run unchanged on all the others. The product provides a complete programming environment, including a macro assembler and a full-file interface. Relocatable utilities and transient definitions make it possible to run substantial software packages even in a limited memory environment. The string package, screen editor, and resident debugger are standard features. Programs can also be optimized with the optional target compiler. MasterForth is priced at \$100-\$125. Reader Service No. 16. MicroMotion

386/ASM from Phar Lap Software is an assembler/linker for the Intel 80386 microprocessor that can be used to create applications for the 80386 on IBM PC, VAX, and Unix host computer systems. A simple extension to the Microsoft OBJ file format has been created to support the 80386; it allows existing 8086 compilers to be up-

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graded with minimal effort and to work with the linker supplied with 386/ ASM. The 386/ASM package includes the 80386 assembler, the 80386 linker, a users' manual, and examples of 80386 assembly-language programs. It is priced at \$495 for the IBM PC version and \$4,995 for the VAX/VMS version. Reader Service No. 17. Phar Lap Software Inc. 60 Aberdeen Ave. Cambridge, MA 02138

(617) 661-1510

ExperTelligence has announced a new PROLOG for the Macintosh. Exper-Prolog II allows you to load, execute, and modify PROLOG programs interactively. The interpreter includes real numbers, string manipulations, and advanced process control. It's \$495. Reader Service No. 18. ExperTelligence 559 San Ysidro Rd. Santa Barbara, CA 93108 (805) 969-7874

Smalltalk/V from **Digitalk** includes graphical icons and fonts, a PROLOG compiler, and a source-level debugger. The language is able to perform object swapping to a hard disk or a RAM disk and can handle objects up to 32K in size. It runs on the IBM PC/AT and is priced at \$99. Reader Service No. 19. Digitalk Inc. 5200 W. Century Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90045

Simulator-debuggers are available from Mecklenburg Engineering that allow you to test and debug object modules for 8-bit microprocessors on an IBM PC. Versions are available for the 63xx, 65xx, 68xx, 8085,

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8048, and Z80 processor lines. The simulators read program or data files in hexadecimal format and allow you to run, trace, single-step, and set breakpoints. Status displays show the contents of memory and registers as well as disassembled instructions. It's priced at \$75. Reader Service No. 20.

Mecklenburg Engineering P.O. Box 744 Chagrin Falls, OH 44022 (216) 338-8379

A utility program called EX-E2LNK from Lief Ibsen allows you to use assemblylanguage modules within programs written in Logitech's Modula-2. The program converts standard, linked object modules to the .LNK object format. It works with Logitech's Versions 1.10 and 2.0 compilers. It costs DKK 550 (\$60). Reader Service No. 21. Leif Ibsen Blommevangen 15 DK - 2760 Maalov Denmark

BES Systems has released a Modula-2 preprocessor that allows programmers to define and use macros as well as include files and conditional compilation. The full source code, written in Logitech's Modula-2/86, is available for \$69.95; the compiled utility only is priced at \$44.95. Reader Service No. 22. BES Systems P.O. Box 270835

Logical Developments has released RF77, a program that translates Ratfor code into standard FOR-TRAN. Ratfor is a high-level structured language that eliminates many of the

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strict requirements of the FORTRAN-77 standard. RF77 creates a standard MS-DOS ASCII file suitable for compilation with most MS-DOS FORTRAN compilers. It's \$65. Reader Service No 23. Logical Developments P.O. Box 55798 Houston, TX 77255

Tools

PopScreen is a fast screen generator for IBM PCs and compatibles from Baysoft that lets you design your displays on screen, with easy access to all the PC's character graphics features. It allows quick creation of boxes, block moves, cursor draws, and individual or global color changes. PopScreen's compacted display data structures can be written as assembly-language source code, in-line code for Turbo Pascal, or as linkable OBJ code for other linked languages. Displays can also be written to .COM files to be used in batch files or called from DOS. PopScreen costs \$39.95. Reader Service No. 24.

BaySoft P.O. Box 562 Albany, CA 94706 (415) 527-6894

Qlink and Qmake, from Electrosoft Corp., can be used to maintain software for the IBM PC and compatibles. The Qlink linker is fully compatible with Microsoft LINK and operates about ten times faster for the average program. It performs the initial link in a way very much like the way Microsoft LINK and others do, and in addition, it builds a map of the program. Qlink can then build a new executable file by replacing changed object modules and tracking new

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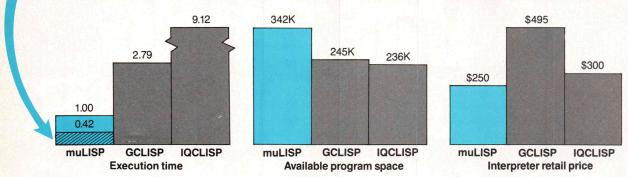
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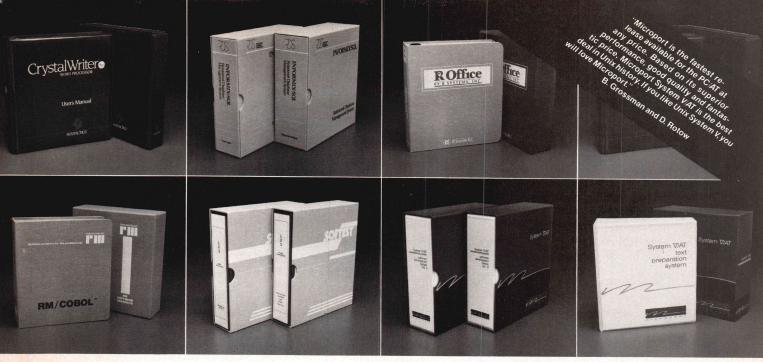
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(continued from page 136)

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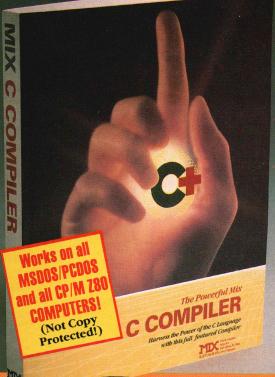
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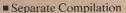
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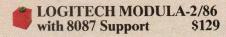


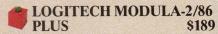
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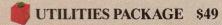




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SWAINE'S FLAMES

ay Duncan, Allen Holub, and I flew up to Redmond, Washington in October for a Microsoft seminar on languages. Navigating the halls, we had to dodge the pushcarts loaded with newly arrived 80386 machines. There was an AT with EGA on every desk. A four-building network that works. Sixty Sun workstations. Yeah, but they get a lot of rain.

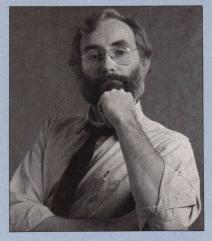
One feature of the seminar was a "Storm the Gates" programming contest. Frivolous though it was, I must admit that it was also a good show and that Bill Gates finished well ahead of all challengers.

Microsoft is concerned just now with competition of a more commercial sort from Borland International. QuickBASIC, Version 2, recently became Microsoft's fastest-selling product. Microsoft is pushing QB2, its shot at Borland's market, like no other product in the company's history.

What is Borland's market, as Microsoft sees it? Microsoft language marketing manager Rob Dickerson polled QuickBASIC 1.0 and Turbo Pascal users. In each case, most used the product at work, and they usually employed it for data management. A picture of a business user writing small report programs suggests itself.

Well, maybe. Meanwhile back in Scotts Valley, Borland has listened to its market and released a new version of Turbo Prolog. Is this the same Borland market? Perhaps a BASIC and a Pascal can share one market, but who are the users of Turbo Prolog, and does any of this have anything to say about who will buy a Turbo C or QuickC?

I ask that question because Microsoft and Borland are at work on Turbolike C compilers. Bill Gates said at the conference that he wants to see Borland bring out a Turbo C, and I'm sure that Phillipe Kahn will be sent one of the first beta copies of QuickC. One market for QuickC could be Windows developers looking for a fast prototyping tool. I'm sure that either



company could do well with a Turbolike C compiler, but I can't believe that the audience is Turbo Pascal programmers.

(Another product that may make Windows development more appealing is a third-party 34010 graphics board that will be announced shortly after my deadline for this column.)

One of the most demanding markets for Microsoft's C compilers is Microsoft, and one of the most important projects underway at Microsoft just now is the work on optimization. Since Microsoft does all its programming in C and assembly language now, optimizing its own C compilers should result in immediate improvements across its entire product line.

What makes serious optimization promising is the 80386 chip, as global dataflow analysis has until now proved too demanding for microprocessor power. What's scary for Microsoft is a new kind of competition. Rob Dickerson admits to being worried about the minicomputer compiler vendors who already have powerful optimizing compilers. Some of these will surely survive the radical paradigm shift into the microcomputer market and make life interesting for microcomputer compiler vendors.

It's not clear whether Microsoft is worried by operating system competitors in the 386 environment. Xenix-386 is out, albeit with a 286 kernel, and non-Unix types may be willing to wait for an MS-DOS. But The Software Link of Atlanta is promising to deliver a native-mode multitasking

operating system for the 386 that will be compatible with and replace DOS. And DRI keeps polishing its Concurrent DOS for PC machines—the version now in beta is getting good marks. Well, we'll see.

On the flight to Redmond I worked a crossword puzzle. One clue was "one who takes drugs." The answer: addict. Yes, it's heartening to see even crossword puzzle writers getting in on the act and analyzing the drug problem as thoroughly as Congress and the television networks have.

My cousin Corbett thinks *DDJ* ought to join the campaign. Addiction, he says, is a serious problem among programmers, and it's spreading rapidly. Corbett has shown me frightening statistics on the number of programmers who only get up from their keyboards during the compile phase and urges me to consider what will happen to these code junkies when they get their hands on 386 machines. Laboratory pigeons on a killer reinforcement schedule. Gruesome.

I'd been wondering for months what was behind Fast Willie's editorial in *PC Tech Journal* begging Intel to hold off on releasing the 386. Now I understand: Willie was doing his bit to fight programming addiction.

Corbett, who abhors mice and windows, spent some time recently programming in Smalltalk and concluded that it's nonaddictive. He is currently negotiating with a software vendor to develop a rehabilitating object-oriented programming environment, the first version of which will be called MethodOne.

Michael Swans

Michael Swaine editor-in-chief

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